

Sermon Series: Living Successfully for God

10/16/25 “Lessons for the Chosen,” Deut. 7, MEV

INTRODUCTION

MAIN IDEA: I need to live as a child of God. How? Here are four things to do.

I. First, protect myself using God’s filters (1-6, 25-26)

A. acknowledging the holiness He has given me (6)

Holy(6): separated; set apart as dedicated to God; physically pure, morally blameless...*as explained & illustrated in Bible*

1. separated from my sin & condemnation
2. given a new identity, His purpose for me

B. eliminating my sinful ways...*my own idolatry*

C. guarding against other influences

1Cor. 15:33, NLT: “Bad company corrupts good character.”

1. refusing to be unequally yoked (3-4)...*marriage to unbeliever, partner with unbeliever*
2. creating boundaries for our homes (26)...*ouija*

Abomination: something sinister, dangerous, repulsive

3. refusing world’s offerings...*silver/gold from idols*

ILLUSTRATION: 172 before salvation; cleaning house

II. Second, live humbly before God (7-11)

A. remembering that He loved me first, before I loved Him

Chosen (6): choice based on a thorough examination of the situation

1Peter 2:9, NLT: for you are a chosen people

Chosen (NT): selected, cherished [who respond in faith to Jesus]

- B. remembering how He delivered, saved me (8)...*thankful*
- C. remembering He loves others as much as He loves me...
my brothers & sisters, those who will believe

ILLUSTRATION:

III. Third, follow Him faithfully (12-16)

Mark 8:34, NLT: Then, calling the crowd to join his disciples, he said, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me.

A. following His Lordship (Romans 10:9)

1. showing Him I love Him by obeying (**John 14:15**)
2. receiving His protection by my obedience (16)

Snare: the lure or bait placed in a hunter’s trap; the noose itself

B. that He may bless me with every spiritual blessing

Ephesians 1:3, NLT: All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ.

ILLUSTRATION: propositioned up north

IV. Finally, fix our eyes fully on Jesus (17-26)

Heb. 12:1-2, CEV: 1 we must get rid of everything that slows us down, especially the sin that just won't let go. And we must be determined to run the race that is ahead of us. **2** We must keep our eyes on Jesus, who leads us and makes our faith complete.

A. our heart follows our eyes...*leading to desire, fear*

Matthew 10:28, MEV: Do not fear those who kill the body but are not able to kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

B. as we focus on Him, we grow in trust

1. His mighty working for us in the past (18-19)
2. His promise to help us in the future (20-24)

ILLUSTRATION:

CONCLUSION:

ALTAR:

Application #1:

- I can work with anyone
- I will not break God's rules, even for employer
- I will honor God with my words & behavior

Application #2:

- marriage is most intimate human relationship; we want to please our spouse, so if we marry unbeliever, our desire will be to sin, separate from God & His people
- possible to put spouse before God [priority should be God #1, spouse #2, children #3, others #4]