

Living Positive in a Negative World

Invest in Positive Output

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Part 4

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1. Staying positive requires more than taking in positive _____

- Positive input alone is _____ to stay positive in a negative world
- A _____ life makes you a negative person

Matthew 16:25 "If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it." (NLT= New Living Translation)

Galatians 6:7-8 "Don't be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. ⁸ Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit." (NLT)

2. Staying positive requires the output of _____

- Jesus calls us to an _____ lifestyle

Philippians 2:3-5 "Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. ⁵ You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had." (NLT)

*Matthew 20:28 "For even the Son of Man came not to **be served** but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many." (NLT)*

- Jesus calls us to a _____ centered lifestyle

Matthew 6:33 "Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need." (NLT)

3. Staying positive requires the output of our _____

- Being positive is a byproduct of living our _____

Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." (NLT)

- Being positive is a byproduct of engaging our _____

I Corinthians 12:7,18 "A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other...But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it." (NLT)

*Romans 15:13 “I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace **because you trust in him**. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.” (NLT)*

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Discussion Questions:

1. Why is it not enough to simply take in positive input? What happens to those who live a more self-absorbed life?
2. How do Matthew 16 and Galatians 6 shed some light on this?
3. Why do we need the output of purpose to help us stay positive in this negative world? How have you experienced this in your own life?
4. What 2 purposes should be an outflow of every follower of Jesus? How do we live out these purposes in our world?
5. Being positive in a negative world also requires us to live our design. Discuss how important identity and gifting are to stay positive. How have you personally experienced the effects of identity and gifting in your own attitude?
6. Discuss Romans 15:13. There is a condition to experiencing hope, joy and peace from God. This passage says; “because you trust in Him.” Discuss what this means and how we live it out in a negative world.