**Why Am I A Christian? (Part 2 of 3) / Back To Basics**

Last time we answered this question with: I have a Father, a Savior, and a Holy Spirit. I have the blessings of prayer, have a life full of purpose, and have a wonderful personal relationship with GodI This morning I would like to continue to answer the question, “**Why Am I A Christian?**”

7. The Lord provides for me! Earthly provisions - Those who are not Christians, many times become obsessed with worry about having food, shelter, clothing and future "financial security". The best security I know is the Lord. He explains in **Matthew 6:25-34** how God provides for the birds, lilies, and the grass of the field and how much more He will provide for His children. The Christian seeks God's will or those things of His kingdom, knowing that as this is done God will provide for his every need. What great peace of mind the Christian enjoys!

8. A life free of today's troubles - **Galatians 5:19-21** lists lots of things that result in problems we see in the world today. Before one has put on Christ these things might be a part of our life, but after conversion the fruits of the Spirit replace them (**Galatians 5:22-23**). In addition the Lord has guaranteed that a Christian will not be given a burden too big to bear in this life (**1 Corinthians 10:13**). How many times I have gone to this verse when facing trials that, at the time, seem insurmountable.

[*Beth and I being stalked for a year in NY, Our young family building the addition, miscarriages, loved ones and family falling away; Then I look at you brethren and I see how you have persevered through many trials of ongoing sickness, loss of loved ones, and loss of spouses.*]

How does the Christian make it through those times? We know we have God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit who care for us, we have the power of prayer, we have each other, and we have verses like **1 Corinthians 10:13** and **Matthew 6:33-34** to help us realize, by taking it one day at a time and keeping His Kingdom first, we can make it through!

9. A happy home (**1 Timothy 6:7-8**) - Those in a Christian home are content with the necessities of life because their riches are being stored in heaven (**Matthew 6:19-21**). The Christian family is one based on honor. Spouses honor one another (**Ephesians 5:33**) and children honor their parents (**Ephesians 6:1-4**). But above all, this family strives to please God by seeking His kingdom (**Luke 12:31**) and walking by His commandments (**John 14:15**). **3 John 4** says, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth". There is no greater joy for a parent than to know their children walk in truth and their souls are headed for heaven. I am very thankful for all the families here who work so hard to raise their children and families in the truth!

10. I have dear brothers and sisters who love me, pray for me, worship with me, and encourage me (**Romans 12:10**). Notice what Jesus said to his disciples in **John 13:34-35**. The Christian enjoys a spiritual fellowship with his brothers and sisters in Christ that is special, sincere, and is only possible through our common love for Him and His teachings (**1 John 3:7-11**). With this relationship we can worship Him in spirit and truth in prayer (**Acts 4:23-31**), study (**Acts 17:11**), the Lord's Supper (**Acts 20:7**), in song (**Colossians 3:16-17**), and in the work of seeking the lost (**Acts 8:4**).

**Today we have a building full of people who want each other to walk with God and be pleasing to Him. What a blessing that is! If you are not Christian, those same Christians would love for you to become their brother or sister this morning! Repent of your sins and be baptized to wash them all away. Then you can start to enjoy the blessings of being a Christian!**