

RCC Phoenix – 7.25.21 – The Face of Christianity

The world is looking for one special ______ to rally around.

Israel wanted one person to lead them as well. They wanted a ______.

1 Samuel 8:1-8 NLT

"As Samuel grew old, he appointed his sons to be judges over Israel. Joel and Abijah, his oldest sons, held court in Beersheba. But they were not like their father, for they were greedy for money. They accepted bribes and perverted justice. Finally, all the elders of Israel met at Ramah to discuss the matter with Samuel. "Look," they told him, "you are now old, and your sons are not like you. Give us a king to judge us like all the other nations have." Samuel was displeased with their request and went to the Lord for guidance. "Do everything they say to you," the Lord replied, "for they are rejecting me, not you. They don't want me to be their king any longer. Ever since I brought them from Egypt they have continually abandoned me and followed other gods. And now they are giving you the same treatment."

God's idea is for believers in Christ to carry the ______ of the Gospel to a dark world. However, believers also fall into the trap of looking for one person to rally around.

Most people think the Face of Christianity is the person who first ______ them about Jesus or the most ______ Christian they can think of.

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The real face of Christianity is ______.

 Every "Christian" or Believer in Christ is an ______ for Jesus to show people the way to ______ & how to correctly ______ in different areas of life.

Jesus gives us direct instructions for dealing with those who ______ or fail us.

Matthew 7:1-5 NLT

"Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. For you will be treated as you treat others. *The standard you use in judging is the standard by which you will be judged.* "And why worry about a speck in your friend's eye when you have a log in your own? How can you think of saying to your friend, 'Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,' when you can't see past the log in your own eye? Hypocrite! First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend's eye."

This Scripture is communicating that ______ will judge us with the same ______ we use to judge others.

John 13:34-35 NLT

"So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

The ______ of God is shown in Scripture.

John 3:16 NLT

"For this is how God *loved* the world: He *gave* his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him *will not perish* but have eternal life."

Ephesians 2:8-9 NLT

"God saved you by his *grace* when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it."

God's nature starts with ______, _____, ______, _______,

Hebrews 12:1-2 NLT

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. We do this by <u>keeping our eyes on Jesus</u>, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne."

Everyone who ______ to be a "Christian" will not make it to heaven.

Matthew 7:21-23 NIV

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'"

We are ambassadors for Christ ______ His message of Salvation.

2 Corinthians 5:16-21 NLT

"So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view. At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now! This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ."