#### WELCOME TO THE JACKSON STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

#### WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

CHURCH

CERIST

OF

Philip. 2:3-8 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in **Iowliness of mind let each esteem others** better than himself. [4] Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. [5] Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, [6] who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, [7] but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. [8] And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

## INTRODUCTION

- We try very carefully to be sure we "do" everything according to the scriptures. That's good
- However some times we are lax in being sure that our attitude is right.
- For many Christians it may be there attitude that causes them to be lost.
- Here are ten rules for improving your attitudes. And insuring your home in heaven.



# 1. Tell yourself over and over again that since you are not perfect, you would not fit into a perfect congregation if one existed.

 (Rom 3:23) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

### **2. Instead of picking out the** worldly members to point to, pick out the sincere, dedicated, spiritual members and thank God for them. You will find what you seek.

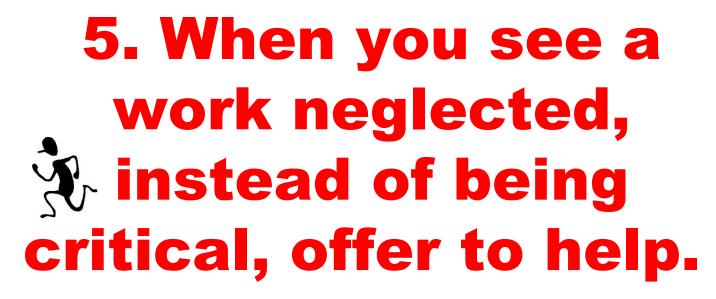
• (Rev 3:4) "You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. **3. If you are old, treat the young** with the consideration you desired as a young person. If you are young, treat adults with the respect you will want when you are mature. A strain

 (1 Tim 5:1-2) Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father, younger men as brothers, {2} older women as mothers, younger as sisters, with all purity.

4. When you are tempted to criticize others, be sure to pray earnestly for them first. This may not change them, but it will do wonders for your attitude.



(Mat 5:43-48) "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' {44} "But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, {45} "that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. {46} "For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? {47} "And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so? {48} "Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.



(Mat 7:1-4) "Judge not, that you be not judged. {2} "For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. {3} "And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? {4} "Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye?

6. Never, NEVER blame others for your own failures.... Every individual can be faithful to God in spite of bad examples and discouraging attitudes of others, if he is determined to be.

 (1 Cor 10:13) No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

**7. Remind yourself** every day that the only way you can improve the world or the church is to begin with self.

(1 Pet 3:1-7) Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives, {2} when they observe your chaste conduct accompanied by fear. {3} Do not let your adornment be merely outward; arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel; {4} rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. {5} For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, {6} as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror. {7} Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.

8. Consciously look for the good in every brother or sister, and make a mental note of the good points each possesses.

 (Mat 22:39) "And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

9. Constantly strive to increase your circle of associates in the church. Try to do something good for each.

 (Heb 10:24) And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,

**10. Every church has** problems. Constantly ask yourself, "Am I a part of the problem, or am I a part of the solution? Am I trying to be merely a critical spectator?"

• (Gal 6:1) Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

- Do you recognize your own imperfections?
- Are you looking at the faithful in the church?
- Do you treat older or younger people with respect?
- Do you pray for those who need to change?
- Do you volunteer to help when work needs to be done?
- Do you blame others for your failures?
- Are you working to improve yourself?
- Are you looking for the good in your fellow Christians?
- Are you trying to get to know your brethren better?
- Are you a problem-pointer-outer or a problem solver?