

the SCRIBBLERS

By Queens For the Cross

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How To Do Right

By Sarah G. Schumacher -- (Age 18)

We live in a world where right seems wrong and evil looks good. We need to determine what will lead our actions when we have no one to answer to.

One popular thing we hear is: "Follow your heart." This definitely sounds good; we all want to follow our desires. It's just in our nature. But this is what God has to say about our hearts: Jeremiah 17:9-10 says, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" We cannot follow our heart - it will lead us to destruction.

How about our conscience then? While it's true that God gave us a conscience, that can't be the determining factor. The Bible speaks in the book of Judges about men who did what was right in their own eyes. And it *wasn't* the right thing.

Our conscience can become seared when we are exposed to wickedness and then become comfortable with it. Just because we don't have a problem with something doesn't mean it's right. This verse describes a couple of the things that will happen to those who depart from the faith.

1 Timothy 4:2 says, "Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron." So what do we listen to then? What can we rely on when the definition of morals is constantly changing?

Isaiah 40:8 says, "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

Psalms 119:113 says, "I hate vain thoughts: but thy law do I love."

And in Psalm 119:104-105 it says "Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

The Word of God is the only thing that will never change. It is our light in a world of darkness. And it is there to guide us when we are struggling. We won't ever succeed in doing the right thing unless we get our wisdom and strength from the Bible.

(All Scripture taken from the KJV Bible version.)

Let's Talk About Joy -- Part One

By Erin Short -- (Age 15)

"Joy is the most magnetic force in the universe."

- Danielle LaPort

Before we talk about what joy looks like, let's take a look at what it *doesn't* look like.

Some people are serious and reserved by nature. Others are born with their heart on their sleeve. We need to remember that there is no personality that God loves more than another.

Joy isn't a matter of how wide you smile or how bubbly your laugh is. It's all about the heart, as are most things when it comes to the fruit of the Spirit. But doesn't Proverbs 15:13 say, "A glad heart makes a cheerful face,"?

Don't think for a second that you aren't joyful if you aren't smiling twenty-four seven. That's not how it works. Proverbs goes on to say in 17:22, "A joyful *heart* is good medicine." A joyful *heart*, not a joyful mouth.

There's a difference between joy and happiness. One is based on circumstance, the other is based on God. One wavers from day to day, and smile to smile. One is as strong as your faith.

"Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!" (Psalm 32:11).

About the Authors

Queens For the Cross is an organization of young Christian women that strive to "break the cultural standard" and make a difference in their community by spreading the Word of God *before* they reach adulthood. Support them by subscribing to *The Scribblers* -- or join them in their mission today!

Contact us at info@queensforthecross.com with any questions or comments (the more the better!), and feel free to submit an article (make it roughly half a page long, and make sure every major statement is backed with a Bible verse) to be published in the next edition!