

Choosing Our Responses

10/24/26

- Today – Opportunity to give a Bible study
 - Comment – Today is a follow-up to my Bible study last Saturday
 - Comment – The 2 Bible studies are related, but they certainly stand alone
 - Last week's title was – "Need and Value"
 - This week's title is – "Choosing Our Responses"
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- Quick reminder
- The main points of last week's presentation
 - We definitely need God and Christ
 - What do you value?
 - I hope you value freedom
 - I don't value controllers
 - Consider an apparent contradiction

2 Cor. 11:20	avoid the following
	· those who want to take you into bondage · those who devour you – (trying to control you) · those who take from you · those who exalt themselves over you – (most of religion) · those who hit you
2 Cor. 11:23-28	when Paul talked about his record of serving them
23	in stripes, above measure – in prisons, more frequently – in death, often
24	5 times received 39 stripes
25	3 times beaten with rods – one time I was stoned
1 Peter 4:15-16	difference – suffering for our choices & suffering as a Christian

- Times – when Christ chose to speak up

Matt. 23:13-30 Bible students talk about 7 woes in Matthew 23 – (mentioned on 5/30/26)
(modern translations don't count verse 14)

Matt. 23:13	woe	Matt. 23:23-24	woe
14	woe	25-26	woe
15	woe	27-28	woe
16-22	woe	29-30	woe

- Ultimately – Christ chose to “stand down”

John 18:36 “My kingdom is not of this world – If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews – but now, My kingdom is not from here”

- Last week – I concluded – by mentioning 4 questions

1. How do you respond to people who don’t really know you?

Matt. 5:14 you are the light of the world
16 light shine before men – see your good works – they may glorify Father

- Often – a clean slate – this interaction has no baggage
- Serve them – Learn from them – Do not assume you are superior
- Be mindful of controversial subjects
 1. Politics – (power and money)
 2. Politics & Religion – (abortion – immigration)
 3. Religion – (some doctrines)

2. How do you respond to people who deliberately shun you?
(They don’t value you)
(They may shun you – because you truly hurt them)
(They may shun you – they believe misinformation about you)
(They may shun you – believe “they are the only true church”)

Rom. 12:17 repay no one evil for evil
18 be a peacemaker – (without letting them control you & trample you down)
19 no revenge
20-21 see if you can serve their need – overcome evil with good

3. How do you respond to people who are trying to hurt you?

1 Sam. 26:21-24 David kept his distance from Saul – he didn’t trust Saul
2 Sam. 1:10-11 David mourned when Saul was killed
2 Tim. 4:14-15 Paul recognized Alexander the coppersmith – “beware of him”

4. How do you respond to people who treat you very, very well?

2 Tim. 1:16 the Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus – for he often
 refreshed me – he was not ashamed of my chain
17 he sought me out very zealously – and found me
18 the Lord grant to him that he may find mercy from the Lord in that Day