

CONTINUE FOLLOWING THE LORD YOUR GOD

1 SAMUEL 12:14

Many Christians start out right, heartily serving the Lord, but gradually they begin to lose heart or lose focus, and their walk with the Lord is hindered (Gal 3:1, 5:7). We have a responsibility to maintain our relationship with the Lord (Heb 12:1).

1. **CONTINUE IN THE WORD (John 8:31-32):** Jesus instructed believers to continue in His word. This is not for the sake of their salvation, but so that we can become disciples of the Lord; disciplined by the truth of the word of God. You cannot follow the Lord and live a victorious Christian life if you are not always in the word of God on a daily basis.
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2. **CONTINUE IN JESUS' LOVE (John 15:7-10):** Our love relationship with the Lord is greatly dependent upon how much time we spend in His word and obey His commandments. Love requires that two people walk together in agreement (Amos 3:3).
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3. **CONTINUE TO LOVE THE BRETHREN (Hebrews 13:1):** Many of the brethren make it difficult to love them. We must let brotherly love continue. This will require faith, charity, and holiness with sobriety (1 Tim 2:15). If we do not love the brethren, it shows we do not love God (1 John 4:20).
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4. **CONTINUE IN THE GRACE OF GOD (Acts 13:43):** Remember God's grace toward you when you were yet a sinner (Rom 5:8). You need to exercise grace toward the brethren who may not be able to live up to your standards yet. Don't let your standards and rules and regulations and codes and bylaws destroy your Christian life!

Secondly, remember that you were saved by grace. If you sin as a believer, you must also seek God's forgiveness by grace. Good works cannot make up for sin. Repent, confess, and receive forgiveness.

5. **CONTINUE IN THE FAITH (Acts 14:22):** The Bible says we will face troubles, tribulations, and difficult times. We must not let that shake our faith. Trouble in our lives does not mean that we are out of God's will. The best thing to do in times of trouble is to not lose faith. Don't go seeking some new religion or a different church to try and alleviate the troubles you were facing. Continue in the faith.
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6. **CONTINUE IN THE LORD'S GOODNESS (Romans 11:22):** God has shown us what the good things are that will help us, and what the bad things are that will hurt us. We need to continue in the good things. Don't go back to your old habits and practices that will drag you down and quench your spiritual life.
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7. **CONTINUE INSTANT IN PRAYER (Colossians 4:2, Romans 12:12):** Prayer will help us in each of these areas we are admonished to continue in.

- Pray before you read the word of God. Ask the Lord to shed the light of truth as you read.
 - Pray that our love for Jesus will remain strong and true.
 - Pray that the actions of the brethren won't affect your love for them. Pray for them instead of complaining about them.
 - Pray that you might stay in the grace of God.
 - Pray that you might stay in the faith.
 - Pray that you might stay in God's goodness.
 - Pray for a better prayer life.
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