

I. WE LIVE IN A NEGATIVE WORLD.

We are constantly affected by the world's problems.

Violence, War, Crime, Alcohol, Drugs, Abortion, Broken Homes, Hospitals, Cemeteries, Prisons.

**Romans 8:18-23**

II. WE ARE CALLED TO BE A POSITIVE FORCE IN THIS NEGATIVE WORLD.

**Matthew 5:13-16**

- a. We are to be rejoicing people.
- b. We are to focus on Positive thoughts and praise.

**Philippians 3:1**

III. HOW TO STAY POSITIVE IN THIS NEGATIVE WORLD?

A. We Must Respond to God's Love.   **Philippians 4:6, 7**

God loves us in spite of the circumstances.

God's love is shown in Creation; revealed in the Bible; and clearly seen at the cross!

B. We Must Reprogram Our Thinking.   **Philippians 4:8**

1. We are constantly bombarded by negative messages.  
The destructive dangers of constant negative input are well documented.
2. The importance of developing a faith-building input cannot be overstated.
  - a. Developing a devotional life.
  - b. Daily Bible reading and prayer.
  - c. Starting every day thankfully, Expecting God to come through.

C. We Must Recognize the Best in Others.   **Philippians 4:8**

1. Everyone is imperfect.
2. Look for the good and Lift each other up.   **Philippians 1:3**
  - a. What a marvelous commendation
  - b. Paul chose to remember the positive things about them.

D. We Must Reach Out to Lost and Hurting People.   **Philippians 4:9**

1. We need to look at the lost state of others rather than the faults of others.
2. Leading people to Christ brings positive joy!   **Psalm 126:6**
  - a. Faith in Christ Enables Us to Be Positive in This Negative World!
  - b. A Positive Testimony Will Bring Others To Our Savior!

E. We Must Do Something!   **Colossians 3:23, 24**

1. Do Something for Christ that Stretches you!
2. Do Something to Enrich your Christian life!
3. Do Something for Your Family!
4. Do Something for Your Church!

IV. LET'S STOP BEING PART-TIME CHRISTIANS.

We are to serve the Lord with all our hearts.

Everything we do should be done for the Lord!