

church of Christ at Greenwood

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What If...?

What if God could not take the time to bless us today because we would not take the time to thank Him yesterday?

What if God decided to stop leading us tomorrow because we did not follow Him today?

What if we never saw another flower bloom because we grumbled when God sent the rain?

What if God did not walk with us today because we failed to recognize it as His day?

What if God took away the Bible tomorrow because we would not read it today?

What if God took away His message because we failed to listen to the messenger?

What if God did not send His only begotten Son because He wanted us to pay the price for sin?

What if the door of the church building was closed because we did not open the door of our heart?

What if God stopped loving and caring for us because we failed to love and care for others?

What if God would not hear us today because we would not listen to Him?

What if God answered our prayers the way we answer His call to service?

What if God met our needs the way we give Him our lives?

Have you ever considered the fact that we often treat our family, friends, neighbors, schoolmates, and coworkers better than we treat God Almighty? Most people at least *try* to live according to the “golden rule” — do unto others as you would have them do unto you. As Jesus said, “And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise” (Luke 6.31). While most extend such courtesy to other human beings, we often fail to

show such courtesy to God Himself. For example, consider the following:

All of us like to be recognized, appreciated, and thanked when we do something helpful for someone — yet how often do we receive blessings from Him and never stop to say “thank you”? When our counsel has been consistently found wise and beneficial, we all like to be heard by those who ask our advice — yet how many times have we inquired of God then failed to heed His infinite wisdom? Everyone appreciates the services of others when they are requested in time of need — yet how frequently do we ignore God’s urgent pleas to come work in His vineyard?

Why do we treat our Lord God Almighty with such disrespect? Have we forgotten that, as Paul said, “in Him we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17.28)? Have we entirely lost sight of the fact that “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights” (James 1.17)? Have we forgotten the promise that, if we “seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness” (Matthew 6.33), He will provide for our necessities? He is greater than any human being ever has been or ever will be, yet we so often treat Him and His blessings with such contempt.

King Solomon had lived his life in exactly this way, treating God with irreverence, yet late in his life he came to this realization: **“Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man’s all”** (Ecclesiastes 12.13).

Let us each resolve today that we will begin treating God as He deserves to be treated!

jeremy paschall