**HOW TO WRITE A GOOD BOOK PART 2**

**Greatness in our midst…..I am sure all of us enjoyed last week Message ministered by Gods servant for that day Minister Gayleen’s Jones which Im sure moved us all and inspired us all!!**

**I especially enjoyed the ending where she asked that everyone go to someone whom they had never spoken to and share some words with each other , the spirit of the Lord moved upon everyone as if we were in the upper room and tongues of fire sat on each of us! What was being set forth by the Holy Spirit was something we need to do more and more often…..get UNITED!!! UNITY WILL CHANGE MANY THINGS AMONGST US!!!! We must get used to being more involved with each other, in PRAYER, BIBLE STUDIES, Ministry work, find your gift and let God Work it through you!!!! But we need each other a lot closer, and a whole lot more involved in the ministry!!!**

**Say Amen!!!!**

**I WANT ALL OF US TO STAND AND GIVE A LOUD CLAP OFFERING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD AND HIS OBEDIENT MINISTER……GAYLEEN JONES !!!!**

**Scripture Reading…1 Peter 2 :11,12 *11Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;12Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.***

Read the Article in Fox News….

**INTRODUCTION**

In part 1 of HOW TO WRITE A GOOD BOOK a great deal of information was imparted in regards to the open books at the judgement day that we will all face in the future! In it we were able to see the importance of knowing how to write the pages and chapters of our lives in a manner that pleases God our Father and those we come in contact with! We also saw the importance of leading a life that would become and example to others who would chose to become followers of Christ!

In this part 2 we want to examine in closer details the true life of a Child of God and what impact our faith should have as members of society. We also need to consider the general instructions given to us concerning us as Christians living in this world as we are called to demonstrate the value of a vibrant faith in Christ as we earn a good testimony from those outside. Also, as good stewards we are called to shine as lights in the world which is in total darkness to the truth of the word of God!

The first thing we want to establish is the fact that ….

1. As Christians, we are sent out as pilgrims and sojourners in this world...

 What does it mean to be a Pilgrim or a Sojourner???? Pilgrim (strangers). If we move to another country we are called Pilgrims or Sojourner, strangers, that need to get adapted to all that the country has as its living agenda!!!

 a. We also have duties regarding our spiritual growth and development!!! So, in order to accomplish this, we must see what is written in God’s word and comply with the words we read and hear!!

[***1Pe 2:11***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Pe%202.11)***11Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul .( In other words as Pilgrims and Strangers we need to be careful what we entangle ourselves with!! The bible warns us not to be entangled with the affairs of this world it also tells us that we are not to touch the unclean thing!!!The world as we know it is full of sinful pollutions that can contaminate even the most righteous person and we need to be extra careful what we come in contact with!!!***

 b. Not forgetting that we also have a duty toward those who are still members of this world alienated from God!

[**1Pe 2:12**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Pe%202.12) **Living Bible puts it this way…*12Be careful how you behave among your unsaved neighbors; for then, even if they are suspicious of you and talk against you, they will end up praising God for your good works when Christ returns.***

2. One arena where we fulfill our duty to those in the world is "the communities we live in"...

 a. The cities and neighborhoods in which we live in!

 b. Relationships we develop and maintain with our neighbors and fellow citizens!

**We need to ask ourselves…..3 questions…**

3. What impact should our faith have as members of the community we live in...?

 a. What effect should it have on the neighbors and citizens we associate with?

 b. Most important is, how can our communities become a place to evangelize the lost? Remember the

 words from God to his prophet Ezekiel…”**and warn them from me”!!!**

4 Paul gave some general instructions concerning Christian living in this world...

[**1Th 4:11-12**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Th%204.11-12) (***NLB) 11This should be your ambition: to live a quiet life, minding your own business and doing your own work, just as we told you before. 12As a result, people who are not Christians will trust and respect you, and you will not need to depend on others for enough money to pay your bills.***

***Beloved, These are strong instructions and convictions we should all adapt to our lives and write them in our good book!***

1. To lead a quiet life (don’t be a disruptive individual) don’t try to bully someone else,(anger sometimes gets the best of some). It also says we are to work with our own hands (don’t have a job, Get one! )

 b. To mind our own business (Keep our nose where it belongs). To walk properly toward those

 who are outside of the faith! (become an example of what you believe, don’t just talk the talk, but

 walk the talk)!!!

What this is covering will be examined further as we consider other passages of scriptures which

speak of Christians as neighbors and citizens, Pilgrims and Strangers!!

So let us start by looking at 4 interesting areas of a Christians lifestyle that will lead us into writing a Good Book!

**I. THE CHRISTIAN AS BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR**

1. **HOW WELL DO WE ASSOCIATE WITH OTHERS...?**
2. **While it is True, we are to be separate, here’s how the Living Bible says it…**

[**2 Co 6:14-18**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Co%206.14-18) ***14Don’t be teamed with those who do not love the Lord, for what do the people of God have in common with the people of sin? How can light live with darkness? 15And what harmony can there be between Christ and the devil? How can a Christian be a partner with one who doesn’t believe? 16And what union can there be between God’s temple and idols? For you are God’s temple, the home of the living God, and God has said of you, “I will live in them and walk among them, and I will be their God and they shall be my people.” 17That is why the Lord has said, “Leave them; separate yourselves from them; don’t touch their filthy things, and I will welcome you 18and be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters.”***

1. **But this being said, we must not confuse separation with isolation!!!!! (Hermits) (Recluse) Paul clarifies a statement he made in this manner…**

[***1Co 5:9-13***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Co%205.9-13)***9When I wrote to you before I said not to mix with evil people. 10But when I said that I wasn’t talking about unbelievers who live in sexual sin or are greedy cheats and thieves and idol worshipers. For you can’t live in this world without being with people like that. 11What I meant was that you are not to keep company with anyone who claims to be a brother Christian but indulges in sexual sins, or is greedy, or is a swindler, or worships idols, or is a drunkard, or abusive. Don’t even eat lunch with such a person.12It isn’t our job to judge outsiders. But it certainly is our job to judge and deal strongly with those who are members of the church and who are sinning in these ways. 13God alone is the Judge of those on the outside. But you yourselves must deal with this man and put him out of your church.***

 [**3**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Co%205.3)**. Jesus provided the example**

[***Mk 2:14-17***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mk%202.14-17)***14As he was walking up the beach he saw Levi, the son of Alphaeus, sitting at his tax collection booth. “Come with me,” Jesus told him. “Come be my disciple.”And Levi jumped to his feet and went along.15That night Levi invited his fellow tax collectors and many other notorious sinners to be his dinner guests so that they could meet Jesus and his disciples. (There were many men of this type among the crowds that followed him.) 16But when some of the Jewish religious leaders[***[***a***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mk+2%3A14-17&version=TLB#fen-TLB-21586a)***] saw him eating with these men of ill repute, they said to his disciples, “How can he stand it, to eat with such scum?”17When Jesus heard what they were saying, he told them, “Sick people need the doctor, not healthy ones! I haven’t come to tell good people to repent, but the bad ones.”***

**When writing Our Good Book it must reflect how well we interacted with people around us by being a good neighbor! HOW IS THIS WORKING OUT IN YOUR LIFE? IS THIS REFLECTED IN YOUR GOOD BOOK?**

 **B. NEXT WE NEED TO BE A PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN PEACE...and UNDERSTANDS ITS VALUES.**

 **1. As much as it depends on us.**

[***Ro 12:17-21***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ro%2012.17-21)***7Never pay back evil for evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honest clear through. 18Don’t quarrel with anyone. Be at peace with everyone, just as much as possible.19Dear friends, never avenge yourselves. Leave that to God, for he has said that he will repay those who deserve it. Don’t take the law into your own hands.[***[***a***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ro+12%3A17-21&version=TLB#fen-TLB-25322a)***] 20Instead, feed your enemy if he is hungry. If he is thirsty give him something to drink and you will be “heaping coals of fire on his head.” In other words, he will feel ashamed of himself for what he has done to you. 21Don’t let evil get the upper hand on you, but conquer evil by doing good.***

***SOME CHRISTIANS FIND THIS AS EASIER SAID THAN DONE. QUESTION IS ,HOW WELL DO YOU HANDLE AN EVIL PERSON?***

1. **Be Careful to give no offense if possible.**

[***1Co 10:32-33***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Co%2010.32-33)***32So don’t be a stumbling block to anyone, whether they are Jews or Gentiles or Christians. 33That is the plan I follow, too. I try to please everyone in everything I do, not doing what I like or what is best for me but what is best for them, so that they may be saved.***

 ***HOW WELL IS THIS EXPRESSED IN YOUR BOOK?***

 **C. THE BIBLE CALLS FOR US TO WALK IN LOVE AND WISDOM...**

 **1. We owe it to our neighbors to love them.**

[***Ro 13:8-10***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ro%2013.8-10)***8Pay all your debts except the debt of love for others—never finish paying that! For if you love them, you will be obeying all of God’s laws, fulfilling all his requirements. 9If you love your neighbor as much as you love yourself you will not want to harm or cheat him, or kill him or steal from him. And you won’t sin with his wife or want what is his, or do anything else the Ten Commandments say is wrong. All ten are wrapped up in this one, to love your neighbor as you love yourself. 10Love does no wrong to anyone. That’s why it fully satisfies all of God’s requirements. It is the only law you need. THE PAGES IN YOUR GOOD BOOK SHOULD HAVE THIS WRITTEN IN IT OVER AND OVER AND OVER!!!***

 **2. Showing kindness through hospitality as in (love of strangers)**

[***Ro 12:13***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ro%2012.13)***; 13 When God’s children are in need, you be the one to help them out. And get into the habit of inviting guests home for dinner or, if they need lodging, for the night.***

***PAUL WRITES A WORD FOR MINISTER/PASTORS…ESPECIALLY TIMOTHY!***

[***1Ti 3:2***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Ti%203.2)***; 2 For a pastor must be a good man whose life cannot be spoken against. He must have only one wife, and he must be hard working and thoughtful, orderly, and full of good deeds. He must enjoy having guests in his home and must be a good Bible teacher. BELIEVE ME WE ARE ALL STILL LEARNING HOW TO INCLUDE THIS IN THE PAGES AND CHAPTERS OF OUR GOOD BOOK!!!***

***As for the wife…***

***1TI*** [***5:10***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Ti%205.10)***She must be well thought of by everyone because of the good she has done. Has she brought up her children well? Has she been kind to strangers as well as to other Christians? Has she helped those who are sick and hurt? Is she always ready to show kindness? MY WIFE OF 52 YEARS HAS THESE QUALITIES IN HER SINCE I MET HER!!! SHE NEVER CHANGES!!! IT’S MY BLESSING FROM THE LORD~~~!!!***

1. **Making good use of our time .**

[***Col 4:5***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Col%204.5)***5Make the most of your chances to tell others the Good News. Be wise in all your contacts with them.***

 ***IN OTHER WORDS DON’T SIT AROUND CONSUMING THE FRUITS OF IDLENESS!!!!***

1. **Speaking with truth and grace** .

[***Col 4:6***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Col%204.6)***; 6Let your conversation be gracious as well as sensible, for then you will have the right answer for everyone.***

[***Ep 4:25***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ep%204.25)***-5Stop lying to each other; tell the truth, for we are parts of each other and when we lie to each other we are hurting ourselves. 26If you are angry, don’t sin by nursing your grudge. Don’t let the sun go down with you still angry—get over it quickly; 27for when you are angry, you give a mighty foothold to the devil.28If anyone is stealing he must stop it and begin using those hands of his for honest work so he can give to others in need. 29Don’t use bad language. Say only what is good and helpful to those you are talking to, and what will give them a blessing. HOW IS YOUR GOOD BOOK STACKING UP IN THE SIGHT OF GOD AND OTHERS! AT THIS POINT IN TIME ASK YOURSELVES WHAT PART OF THIS DO I REALLY NEED TO CHANGE AND ADJUST TO IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO WRITE MY GOOD BOOK!!***

 **D. WE ARE ALSO INSTRUCTED TO DO GOOD...**

 **1.In other words we must be diligent in doing good works**

[***Mt 5:16***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mt%205.16)***; Don’t hide your light! Let it shine for all; let your good deeds glow for all to see, so that they will praise your heavenly Father.***

[***Lk 6:35***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Lk%206.35)***; 35“Love your enemies! Do good to them! Lend to them! And don’t be concerned about the fact that they won’t repay. Then your reward from heaven will be very great, and you will truly be acting as sons of God: for he is kind to the unthankful and to those who are very wicked.***

[***Ga 6:10***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ga%206.10)***; 10That’s why whenever we can we should always be kind to everyone, and especially to our Christian brothers***

[***1Ti 6:17-18***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Ti%206.17-18)***; 7Tell those who are rich not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which will soon be gone, but their pride and trust should be in the living God who always richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. 18Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and should give happily to those in need, always being ready to share with others whatever God has given them.***

[***Tit 3:8***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Tit%203.8) ***These things I have told you are all true. Insist on them so that Christians will be careful to do good deeds all the time, for this is not only right, but it brings results.***

[***1Pe 2:12***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Pe%202.12)***2Be careful how you behave among your unsaved neighbors; for then, even if they are suspicious of you and talk against you, they will end up praising God for your good works when Christ returns.***

1. **WE MUST DISPLAY AN HONORABLE CONDUCT AT ALL TIMES.**

[***2Co 8:21***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Co%208.21)***1God knows we are honest, but I want everyone else to know it too. That is why we have made this arrangement.***

1. **Earning a good testimony from those outside.**

[***1Ti 3:7***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Ti%203.7)***; Also, he must be well spoken of by people outside the church—those who aren’t Christians—so that Satan can’t trap him with many accusations and leave him without freedom to lead his flock.***

[***Ac 22:12***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ac%2022.12)***2There a man named Ananias, as godly a man as you could find for obeying the law and well thought of by all the Jews of Damascus***

In [**Tit 3:1-2**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Tit%203.1-2), [Paul sums up what is our duty as neighbors. He also touches on what is our duty as citizens.

***Remind your people to obey the government and its officers, and always to be obedient and ready for any honest work. 2They must not speak evil of anyone, nor quarrel, but be gentle and truly courteous to all.***

**II. THE CHRISTIAN MUST BE A MODEL CLASS A CITIZEN BY**

1. **OBEYING THOSE IN AUTHORITY...**

 **1. To be subject to rulers authorities** - cf.

[***Ro 13:1-5***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ro%2013.1-5) ***Obey the government, for God is the one who has put it there. There is no government anywhere that God has not placed in power. 2So those who refuse to obey the laws of the land are refusing to obey God, and punishment will follow. 3For the policeman does not frighten people who are doing right; but those doing evil will always fear him. So if you don’t want to be afraid, keep the laws and you will get along well. 4The policeman is sent by God to help you. But if you are doing something wrong, of course you should be afraid, for he will have you punished. He is sent by God for that very purpose. 5Obey the laws, then, for two reasons: first, to keep from being punished, and second, just because you know you should.***

 **2. We are called To obey their laws, unless they conflict with God's law -** cf.

[***1Pe 2:13-16***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Pe%202.13-16)***; 3For the Lord’s sake, obey every law of your government: those of the king as head of the state, 14and those of the king’s officers, for he has sent them to punish all who do wrong, and to honor those who do right.15It is God’s will that your good lives should silence those who foolishly condemn the Gospel without knowing what it can do for them, having never experienced its power. 16You are free from the law, but that doesn’t mean you are free to do wrong. Live as those who are free to do only God’s will at all times.***

[***Ac 5:27-29***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ac%205.27-29)***The police captain went with his officers and arrested them (without violence, for they were afraid the people would kill them if they roughed up the disciples) and brought them in before the Council.28“Didn’t we tell you never again to preach about this Jesus?” the High Priest demanded. “And instead you have filled all Jerusalem with your teaching and intend to bring the blame for this man’s death on us!”29But Peter and the apostles replied, “We must obey God rather than men.***

 **B. GIVE HONOR AND PAY YOUR TAXES AS DEEMENED HONEST**

 **1. Honor all, including those in government**

[***1Pe 2:17***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Pe%202.17)***7Show respect for everyone. Love Christians everywhere. Fear God and honor the government.***

 **2. Pay taxes and customs, rendering fear (respect) and honor - cf.**

[***Ro 13:6-7***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ro%2013.6-7)***6Pay your taxes too, for these same two reasons. For government workers need to be paid so that they can keep on doing God’s work, serving you. 7Pay everyone whatever he ought to have: pay your taxes and import duties gladly, obey those over you, and give honor and respect to all those to whom it is due.***

1. **PRAY FOR THOSE IN AUTHORITY**

 **1. For kings and all who are in authority.**

[***1Ti 2:1-2***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Ti%202.1-2) ***Here are my directions: Pray much for others; plead for God’s mercy upon them; give thanks for all he is going to do for them.2Pray in this way for kings and all others who are in authority over us, or are in places of high responsibility, so that we can live in peace and quietness, spending our time in godly living and thinking much about the Lord.[***[***a***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Ti+2%3A1-2&version=TLB#fen-TLB-26732a)***]***

**[Christians are a valuable asset for any country in which they live. Not only by their lawful obedience and prayers for those in authority, but by sharing the good news of God's love.**

[***1Ti 2:4-6***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Ti%202.4-6) ***4for he longs for all to be saved and to understand this truth: 5That God is on one side and all the people on the other side, and Christ Jesus, himself man, is between them to bring them together, 6by giving his life for all mankind.***

**This is the message that at the proper time God gave to the world.**

**III. THE CHRISTIAN MUST SERVE AS EVANGELISTS**

1. **HOLDING FAST THE WORD OF LIFE...**

 **1. We are to shine as lights in the world**.

[***Php 2:14-15***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Php%202.14-15)***14In everything you do, stay away from complaining and arguing 15so that no one can speak a word of blame against you. You are to live clean, innocent lives as children of God in a dark world full of people who are crooked and stubborn. Shine out among them like beacon lights,***

 **2. Holding fast the Word of life**.

[***Php 2:16***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Php%202.16)***16holding out to them the Word of Life.***

Then when Christ returns, how glad I will be that my work among you was so worthwhile.

 **b.This is Certainly a duty expressed elsewhere**.

[***Mk 16:15***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mk%2016.15)***; 15And then he told them, “You are to go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone, everywhere.***

[***1 Pet 2:9***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1%20Pe%202.9)***But you are not like that, for you have been chosen by God himself—you are priests of the King, you are holy and pure, you are God’s very own—all this so that you may show to others how God called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.***

 3. In our communities, we have a duty to GOD TO spread the Word!

1. **INFLUENCING PEOPLE BY EXAMPLE...**

 1. Sometimes people won't listen to our message

 2. But we can still influence them for good by our example.

[***1Pe 3:1-2***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Pe%203.1-2) ***Wives, fit in with your husbands’ plans; for then if they refuse to listen when you talk to them about the Lord, they will be won by your respectful, pure behavior. Your godly lives will speak to them better than any words.***

 3. In our communities, we have a duty to confirm the Word by our lives!

**THESE FINAL CLOSING THOUGHTS……**

1. Living in our community is a wonderful opportunity...

 a. To be a positive influence on our friends and neighbors

 b. To be a blessing for whatever country in which we find ourselves

2. Let your faith in the community be an opportunity...

 a. To demonstrate the value of a vibrant faith in Christ!

 b. To reach others for Jesus Christ through the gospel!

3 **ARE WE A PRAYING/FASTING/WORSHIPING GOD TYPE OF PEOPLE?**

 **DO WE ATTEND BIBLE STUDIES AND PRAYER MEETINGS?**

What kind of neighbors and citizens are we? Do we encourage others to glorify God?

**BY THE LOOK ON THE FACES IN THIS ROOM TODAY, I CAN SEE QUITE CLEARLY THAT EACH AND EVERYONE OF US HAS A LOT OF ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT. BUT IF WE ARE FAITHFUL WITH THE HELP OF GOD WE CAN WRITE A GOOD BOOK THAT GOD WILL BE LOOKING FORWARD TO REVEAL AT THE JUDGMENT DAY!!.**

**PRACTICE THESE THINGS AND YOU TOO BY THE GRACE OF GOD AND HIS HOLY SPIRIT”S GUIDANCE WILL BE ABLE TO WRITE A GOOD BOOK PLEASING GOD THE FATHER. CHECK BACK ON THE PAGES OF YOUR GOOD BOOK AND LET GOD SHOW YOU THE THINGS YOU ARE STILL LACKING IN!!**

Minister Gayleen….closing comments….and Prayer