

# **“CHANGE YOUR ATTITUDE”**

**ser5074, What Should a Christian Look Like? Pt3  
E & L**

**(HOOK)**

**PLAY BOBBY BROWN’S “DON’T BE CRUEL”**

**Transition line after song\***

Let me ask you a question: “What is an attitude?”

An attitude is defined as: a settled way of thinking or feeling about someone or something, typically one that is reflected in a person's behavior.

So, how should a Christian’s attitude look like?

You see as Christians we live under a magnifying glass every day we walk outside.

The world is just waiting for us to slip up at any moment so they can point and say, “Ohhhhhh, ain’t you a Christian? You ain’t supposed to be acting like that!!”

Now granted, as Christians we are far from perfect, but our attitudes at times can be reflected in a negative way when it comes to how the culture looks at us.

For example, (Great Grandmother Illustration)

You see ways that our attitudes are portrayed can play a role in how society views Christians. And that's why today I want to focus on "What's a Christian's attitude supposed to look like?"

First let's Pray!

So, first things first I wanna tackle a few things but first I wanna ask., How should a Christians attitude be in church?

### **ATTITUDE IN CHURCH (Slide)**

#### **(BOOK)**

If you turn your Bibles to *1 Corinthians 12:21-25* it reads this (Slide):

21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" 22 On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, 24 while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, 25 so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. 26 If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

Church, one thing that we need to understand is that church is not a building, it is the population of Christians that strive

to get closer to Christ. And with that being the fact of the matter we are the Church which is the body of Christ.

### **(LOOK)**

When we are in church our attitudes should never display negativity for negativity hurts the Body of Christ.

Church should be a place where sinners can come and worship free of judgment with fellowship and healing along the way. If our attitudes are not glorying to God, then we are not strengthening the Body of Christ.

When in church we should have an attitude of serving and helping. But most importantly being one.

Notice how the word says in *verse 26*:

**“If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.”**

Church, when we are in the House of the Lord we should have a serving mindset. When people come and they lay their burdens at the altar we are to lift them up and comfort them. When people come into the House of the Lord, and they have a praise update we are to praise with them.

If you come into church with a mindset of:

- Oh, I have my own problems
- Oh, I can't be around this
- Oh, what do they want me to do now?
- Oh, I can't wait for this to be over
- Oh, I wish they would just get over it

If you come into church with an attitude like that, then YOU are hurting the body of Christ!

When we walk into the house of the Lord we should be walking in with an attitude of respect. If we are the Church which is the body of Christ, then we need to ask ourselves, "Am I willing to hurt myself?" or "Am I willing to help bring people into the Kingdom of God?"

And I don't know if you are struggling with this or not, but what we have to understand is that Christ gave us different roles when it comes to the church.

For example, if you turn in your Bibles to **1 Corinthians 12:27-31** it reads this (**Slide**):

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. 28 And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30 Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues [native languages]? Do all interpret? 31 Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

So, let's talk about this for a minute.

Paul is clearly stating that the Church is made up of all different types of moving parts with people peculiar to different areas. And we should strive to fit in these areas.

God has a purpose and will for everyone in the church and a lot of times we don't know what it is, but most importantly,

when God reveals that purpose, we are to take it and run with it.

We are not to moan and groan and simply have a negative attitude questioning the role that God has given us.

- Some of you in here today may be the teacher.
- Some of you in here today may be healers
- Some of you in here today may be the prophets
- Some of you in here today may be the ones speaking prophetically and giving guidance

**NOTE:** For those of you on the receiving end of another's prophetic words or guidance—FIRST, make sure it aligns with God's words, SECOND, confirms by more than one voice.

So, if the Lord is using you then why do you have an attitude?

As Christians when we walk into the house of the Lord our main focus should be, "How can I strengthen the body of Christ today?" Not tear it down.

Have you ever heard the saying, "Church drama is the best drama?"

Oh, I bet we all have... (**Illustration**)

Listen, I get it. I know we all love a bit of juicy drama in our lives, but listen when it comes to the Body of Christ you are to check that at the door and leave it there.

**Proverbs 26:20** says this (Slide):

20 If you don't have wood, your fire goes out.

If you don't talk about others, arguing dies down.

God is not a gossiping God and if He calls you to pertain to a certain role within the church than you must set that tone for the believers because your attitude must exhibit positive attributes because as the Body of Christ we are to enter in the House with thanksgiving.

As believers and as the church we are to enter the House of God with a positive attitude ready to serve and worship the Lord, if we are not doing that then we are not helping the Kingdom of God.

**Then we get to our attitudes outside of church.**

### **ATTITUDE OUTSIDE OF CHURCH (Slide)**

A lot of times people ask me, "Why does your generation not like Church. A lot of times people ask me, why does your generation not believe in the one true God. So, like most college graduates, I try to do research to find an answer, and many of the responses I get are very similar.

Things such as:

- Christians are the biggest hypocrites
- Christians never practice what they preach
- Christians use the Bible as a way for them to preach their own agenda
- Christians are some of the MEANEST people ever!

**NOW**, I'm not saying they are right in their observation. I'm, simply saying, this is how they see it.

You know a I've gotten these responses from a lot of people and many of them are firm believers in these statements.

**So how is our attitude outside of the church, family???**

You know in **Matthew 7:2-5** the Word of God says this (**Slide**):

7 "Do not judge other people. Then you will not be judged. 2 You will be judged in the same way you judge others. You will be measured in the same way you measure others.

3 "You look at the bit of sawdust in your friend's eye. But you pay no attention to the piece of wood in your own eye. 4 How can you say to your friend, 'Let me take the bit of sawdust out of your eye'? How can you say this while there is a piece of wood in your own eye? 5 You pretender! First take the piece of wood out of your own eye. Then you will be able to see clearly to take the bit of sawdust out of your friend's eye.

**Notice how the first two verses say:**

"Do not judge other people. Then you will not be judged. You will be judged in the same way you judge others. You will be measured in the same way you measure others."

As you can see the word of God specifically states that we are not to judge others and what comes with that is having a proper attitude.

I don't know about you, but I don't want people to see the world in me (I want people to see the Jesus in me!)- **(Slide)**

So, when we walk outside we should be showing the Love of Jesus. Not judging and creating division.

And also, Christians let's be mindful of ourselves.

Everyone's walk is different with the Lord; everyone's mindset to the Lord is different. With that in mind, how can we bring people to the Lord if our attitudes are not right towards others.

**Let's go back to the verse again!**

Looking at **verse 4 & 5** it says:

4 How can you say to your friend, 'Let me take the bit of sawdust out of your eye'? How can you say this while there is a piece of wood in your own eye? 5 You pretender! First take the piece of wood out of your own eye. Then you will be able to see clearly to take the bit of sawdust out of your friend's eye.

Let me ask you all a question: "If our job as Christians is to spread the Love of Jesus everywhere we go, then why are constantly pointing out the faults in others when we clearly have the faults of our own –and one of those faults is our attitude towards others.

Now, let's bring that back to our sermon title, "***Change Your Attitude.***"

We all have faults; we all have our own setbacks, but it is not in our authority to have a negative attitude outside of the House of God.

Jesus did most of his ministry outside of the church. He was around people who weren't deemed as "good" all the time.

- He was around people that needed a Savior.
- He was around people that didn't need to be judged but loved instead,
- He was around the people that deserved to die, but he showed them grace, understanding, and hope.
- Therefore, if the Son of Man can have a proper attitude towards others, why can't we?

### **The truth is ...**

- It is up to us to set the tone.
- I'm tired of being told that my God isn't real
- I'm tired of being told that we're hypocrites
- I'm tired of being told that Christians are not fulfilling God's will
- I'm tired of us not setting the tone
- I'm tired of us being angry!

- **Church family we have to fix our Attitudes!!! (Slide)**

**ATTITUDE WHEN GOING TO GOD (Slide)**

**Romans 12:1-2** says (Slide):

12 Brothers and sisters, God has shown you His mercy. So I am asking you to offer up your bodies to Him while you are still alive. Your bodies are a holy sacrifice that is pleasing to God. When you offer your bodies to God, you are worshiping Him in the right way. 2 Don't live the way this world lives. Let your way of thinking be completely changed. Then you will be able to test what God wants for you. And you will agree that what He wants is right. His plan is good and pleasing and perfect.

**Church this is simple!** God has given us everything!

From the breath in our bodies to our materialistic possessions; He has given them all to us!

But in the midst of everything He has carried us through all our storms!

- He's taught us when we really needed to be taught!
- He's fixed us when we were broken
- He's helped us overcome every adversity that we are faced with!
- And I'm sure He's helping you with whatever you are going through right now!

My God has given us all these Blessings, so when I'm going to Him, I'm going to Him with RESPECT!

I want us to look back at our verse from earlier in **1 Corinthians** once again it reads:

29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30 Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues [that is native languages]? Do all interpret? 31 Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

**Then notice in *Romans* it says:**

2 Don't live the way this world lives. Let your way of thinking be completely changed. Then you will be able to test what God wants for you. And you will agree that what He wants is right. His plan is good and pleasing and perfect.

It clearly states in both verses that God has a plan for each one of you; and, He has something huge in store for us.

What do we need? The right attitude!

He gives us so much and He asks for so little!

So, let's give him the proper attitude. The more our attitude is like that of our Heavenly Father, the more His plan will be revealed to us.

**(TOOK)**

And I don't know about you, but I want the Lord to reveal the plans He has for me by letting Him whop me into shape, even if that involves me having to fix my attitude!

- It doesn't matter if it's towards yourself
- It doesn't matter if it's towards my coworkers
- It doesn't matter if it's towards my parents
- It doesn't matter if it's towards someone on the street

- It doesn't matter if it's towards my friends
- It doesn't matter if it's towards my family
- It doesn't matter if it's towards my church

We still must have an attitude that is on fire for God!

## **INVITATION:**

But to be on fire for God we must first know Him.

### **Here's how:**

**Admit** – your sins have separated you from God. (**Psa 14:1-3; Rom 3: 23**);

**Believe** – that God did something about your sins through Jesus Christ. (The final Pascal Lamb/Messiah.) (**Lev 17:10; Heb 9: 19-22**);

**Commit** – yourself to His righteousness by confessing Jesus as Lord and Savior. (**Isa 53:5; Col 1:22**);

**Do it today!** (**Isa 49:8; 2 Cor 6:2**).

Father in Heaven, thank you for loving me. I admit that I am a sinner. I believe that you did something about my sin, through your son Jesus, when He died, so that I could be forgiven. Jesus, come into my heart, I give you my life. I make you my Lord and Savior. Amen.

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

Those of you who prayed with me today and **received** Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, please fill out the

**Welcome Card** or **White Envelope** found in the pew in front of you and check the box that says FTD. Place it in the offering baskets as you leave the Church. We'll be in touch this week via letter giving you a few pointers on how to grow in your fellowship with Christ.

**Those of you watching [online](#) who prayed with me, please ...**

**TEXT:** Pray to **856-863-8144** or

**EMAIL:** **[Bruce@gcccpray.com](mailto:Bruce@gcccpray.com)**

**CLOSING STATEMENT!**

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2724 words (21 minutes w/o Illustrations)