

HOW TO BUILD A GODLY LIFE SERIES  
A GODLY LIFE REQUIRES CAUTIOUSNESS

I. DEFINITION OF CAUTIOUSNESS: TAKING CARE TO AVOID DANGER AND MISTAKES.

A. Biblical Cautiousness is planning for the success of a venture by following the ways of God rather than my natural inclinations.

II. CAUTIOUSNESS IS RECOGNIZING THAT WE HAVE NATURAL INCLINATIONS THAT ARE OPPOSITE TO GOD'S WAYS.

Prov. 16:25, "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

A. If we act according to our natural tendencies without cautiousness, we can act foolishly and pay a heavy price.

B. When we do not do things God=s way, God uses a very strong word to describe this sin – iniquity.

Matt. 7:23, "And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." (KJV)

C. A cautious person will seek God's will for each situation.

III. HOW DO WE DEVELOP CAUTIOUSNESS?

A. Acknowledge that our natural inclinations are often wrong and cry out to God for His wisdom.

James 1:5-8, "If you want to know what God wants you to do, ask him, and he will gladly tell you, for he is always ready to give a bountiful supply of wisdom to all who ask him; he will not resent it. But when you ask him, be sure that you really expect him to tell you, for a doubtful mind will be as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind; and every decision you then make will be uncertain, as you turn first this way and then that. If you don't ask with faith, don't expect the Lord to give you any solid answer." (TLB)

B. When we read or hear God=s wisdom from the Bible, we need to be sure we follow it.

1. Unfortunately, a lot of Christians are just hearers and not doers.

C. Learn from the experiences of others. 2 Sam. 6:1

D. Remember, we are prone to do things the wrong way, therefore the right way to do something is sometimes the opposite of the way we feel.

E. Seek out wise counsel.

#### Personal Evaluation

How cautious are you?

Do you seek God's will for every situation?

Do you ask for counsel from wise and experienced people?

Do you learn from the mistakes of others?

Do you think about what you are going to say before you speak?

Do you consider the right timing for doing a good deed?

Do you realize how your actions will affect others?

Do you plan ahead and count the cost, especially for big endeavors?

WE WOULD BE WISE TO LISTEN TO OTHERS MISTAKES. GET EXPERIENCE AS INEXPENSIVELY AS YOU CAN; OTHERS HAVE PAID A HIGH PRICE FOR IT.