

I have seen people get dominated by their circumstances, surroundings, and others around them. I have seen people get their eyes off Jesus and get offended at man, as an assistant Pastor of a church for 5 years I saw many things that made a negative affect on people's lives including my own, mostly because we allowed it to! I know people who have made wrong decisions without really seeking God and miss a blessing coming along their way because they didn't like the Pastor or the church or someone therein. One thing they all have in common and I have made the same mistake myself, **they got their eyes off Jesus!**

When we do this, we become hard in heart towards one another, not wishing to fellowship no more, because we have been ripped off by Christians. Whoever said that Christians were perfect anyway? Even Jesus said there is no one good but God when he was called a good teacher. Even I am not a good teacher, most of my life I have not been good at anything, does that stop me? NO! I keep my focus on what God has called me to do which is not much, I am a stepping stone for others basically and if I can help someone obtain a higher calling in God than myself I am happy for them, if someone else gets more blessed than me I am happy for them, If someone has a nice new car or house and I don't, I am happy for them!

Likewise I am happy full stop! The bible tells us in **Phillippians 4:8** *Finally, my brothers, whatever things are true, whatever things are honest, whatever things are right, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report; if there is any virtue and if there is any praise, think on these things.* When Paul wrote this passage he was sitting in a dungeon, his surrounds and circumstances were not the best would you agree? Don't let nothing or noone get you down, only let the Holy Spirit pick you up and rely on him to lead and guide you as Jesus will never leave us nor forsake us. Keep a positive attitude just like the following story.

**Positive Attitude: (Courtesy of Warrigal Rd State School Newsletter)**

She is a 92 year old, petite, well poised, proud woman. She is fully dressed each morning by eight o'clock, with her hair fashionably coiffured, her make up perfectly applied, in spite of the fact that she is legally blind. Today she has moved to a nursing home, her husband of 70 years had passed away making the move necessary.

After many hours of waiting in the lobby patiently she smiled sweetly when told her room was ready. As she manoeuvred her walker to the elevator, her attendant gave her a visual description of her tiny room, including the eyelet curtains that had been hung on her window. "I love it," she stated with the enthusiasm of an eight year old who had just been presented with a new puppy. When she was told that they were not even at the room yet she replied " that does not have anything to do with it." "Happiness is something you decide on ahead of time. Whether I like my room or not, does not depend on how the furniture is arranged. It is how I arrange it in my mind. I have already decided I love it."

She went on to say that it is a decision she makes every morning when she wakes up. She had a choice. She can spend the day in the bedroom recounting the difficulty she has with parts of her body that no longer work, or she can get out of bed and be thankful for the ones that do work. Each day is a gift, and as long as her eyes are open, she will focus on the new day and all the happy memories she has stored away...for just this time in her life. Old age she believes, is like a bank account. You withdraw from what you have already put in.