NOW THAT I'M A CHRISTIAN (#2)

(1 John 1:1-10)

<u>INTRODUCTION</u> - anytime one becomes a member of a group or organization, they acquire an obligation to make it succeed, and if they don't, they contribute to its failure.

In last week's lesson, it was noted 1) How I became a Christian 2) Some immediate blessings in "obeying the truth" 3) Listed 3 items that will contribute to our success in Christian living: grow as a Christian, Bible study, and be faithful.

Today's lesson continues to list items for successful Christian living.

- 4. SEEK GOD FIRST (Matthew 6:33) "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."
 - "Seek first" it is a divine appeal for us to put first things first; give Christianity priority; it's to be above all else; before anything else.
 - (Colossians 3:1-3) "If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above ... set your mind on things above ... For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God."

Note the words to Hymn #619

5. PRAY - (1 Thessalonians 5:17) "Pray without ceasing"

(Ephesians 6:18) "praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints"

Just as parents want to hear from their children, so God the Father wants to hear from His children. Even though (Matthew 6:8) "... For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him."

6. ATTEND WORSHIP ASSEMBLY FAITHFULLY - (Hebrews 10:23-25)

"Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."

Note the value of assembly in this text.

Someone said, "Attending the assembly does not depend on how FAR you live from the building, but how CLOSE you live to God."