

We must think of these things, and ask God to protect us. But there are works of the flesh which none of us completely get away from in this life. None of us. But God wants us to put His will and the welfare of others first, make our lives count for Him, and think only of His glory.

None of us have reached perfection, or come anywhere near it. When I hear someone say ~~theyxxx~~ "I am completely sanctified," I ~~just~~ feel sorry for him. Let us imagine the man in the gutter, and pretend that he is right on the floor next to us. Some of us may be as high as the seat of our chairs, figuratively speaking. Some may have risen to the height of the back of the chair. But God's standard is as high as the ceiling, or as high as the heavens, and we have a long way to go to reach it. And that is what God is greatly interested in: Not merely what we do for others, but whether we are accomplishing this primary purpose of our lives: growth in godliness.

Galatians 5:22-3 says: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, self-control..." How is the fruit of the Spirit developing in your life? Are you making the progress God wants you to?

"Understanding what the will of the Lord is." Not whether we should go here or there, or do this or that. ~~xxxxxxx~~ He may choose to guide us directly in some of these thousands of decisions, or he may not. But we do know that His will is that we should devote our lives to leading souls to the knowledge of Christ. And we know that whether he calls us to full-time service or to some other line of work, it is His will that we give a great part of our time and energy to