

Remember doing stupid things like this? But, hey, its all part of growing up, isn't it? But, NOW, I am an adult and I don't do foolish things, right? Wrong, we will continue to make wrong decisions and do foolish

things until the day we die. <u>But</u>, we will get better at life, make more sound decisions and become better at living, with each and every passing year.

The Bible says...

Corinthians 13 (World English Bible)

- ¹ If I speak with the languages of men and of angels, but don't have love, I have become sounding brass, or a clanging cymbal.
- ² If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but don't have love, I am nothing.
- ³ If I dole out all my goods to feed the poor, and if I give my body to be burned, but don't have love, it profits me nothing.
- ⁴ Love is patient and is kind; love doesn't envy. Love doesn't brag, is not proud,

- ⁵ doesn't behave itself inappropriately, doesn't seek its own way, is not provoked, takes no account of evil;
- ⁶ doesn't rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;
- ⁷ bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.
- ⁸ Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will be done away with. Where there are various languages, they will cease. Where there is knowledge, it will be done away with.
- ⁹ For we know in part, and we prophesy in part;
- ¹⁰ but when that which is complete has come, then that which is partial will be done away with.
- ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I felt as a child, I thought as a child. Now that I have become a man, I have put away childish things.

Learning to love is among the greatest accomplishments for us all.

Learning to think and reason is right up there with love. But, what

about obedience? Are we willing to obey? I am not talking about just man-made rules, but about obeying GOD? Succinctly, Are we willing to obey God?

Consider...

1 Corinthians 15 (WEB)

- ¹ Now I declare to you, brothers, the Good News which I preached to you, which also you received, in which you also stand,
- ² by which also you are saved, if you hold firmly the word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.
- ³ For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,
- ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,
- ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

- ⁶ Then he appeared to over five hundred brothers at once, most of whom remain until now, but some have also fallen asleep.
- ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles,
- ⁸ and last of all, as to the child born at the wrong time, he appeared to me also.

The above passage is an historical <u>FACT</u>. Jesus lived, died and lives again; his teachings have incredible depth, his actions show perfection and his power is unmatched in all of human history. Yet, because of the stubbornness of human pride, some people will not believe the truth and be saved; others will believe and obey.

It says in the book of Acts...

Acts 2 (WEB)

"Men of Israel, hear these words! Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved by God to you by mighty works and wonders and signs which God did by him in the midst of you, even as you yourselves know,

- him, being delivered up by the determined counsel and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by the hand of lawless men, crucified and killed;
- ²⁴ whom God raised up, having freed him from the agony of death, because it was not possible that he should be held by it.
- For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before my face, For he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved.
- ²⁶ Therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced. Moreover my flesh also will dwell in hope;
- because you will not leave my soul in Hades, neither will you allow your Holy One to see decay.
- 28 You made known to me the ways of life. You will make me full of gladness with your presence.'
- ²⁹ "Brothers, I may tell you freely of the patriarch David, that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.

- Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, he would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne,
- he foreseeing this spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that neither was his soul left in Hades, nor did his flesh see decay.
- 32 This Jesus God raised up, to which we all are witnesses.
- Being therefore exalted by the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this, which you now see and hear.
- 34 For David didn't ascend into the heavens, but he says himself, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit by my right hand,
- ³⁵ until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet."
- 36 "Let all the house of Israel therefore know certainly that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."
- Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

- Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- For the promise is to you, and to your children, and to all who are far off, even as many as the Lord our God will call to himself."
- With many other words he testified, and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation!"
- ⁴¹ Then those who gladly received his word were baptized. There were added that day about three thousand souls.

Knowing about God and believing in him is fine, but it is not enough. One has to obey GOD as well. Have you? If not, why not? Accept the absolute fact that Jesus offered himself for YOU and that YOU have a choice whether or not to obey his Gospel (Good News). Make the decision TODAY, to obey God now, before it is too late and you die in your sins. Or, continue to play with mud-pies and hope that you somehow you will magically gain a herd-immunity for sin! Choose wisely!