

Wheel Illustration

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I. Introduction.

- A. The Christian life is an integration. (John 15:4-5; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 11)
- B. There are practical means for abiding in Christ.

II. The hub: Christ.

A. A hub is a point of power.

- 1. Jesus is the source of our power.
- 2. We cannot live our lives in our own strength. (2 Corinthians 12:9; Zechariah 4:6; Philippians 4:13)

B. A hub must be at the absolute center of the wheel in order for it to function.

- 1. Basically in our lives we want Christ to be Lord.
- 2. The Lordship of Christ must be lived out day by day through obedience. (Luke 6:46; 1 John 3:24)

III. The spokes.

A. The Word of God. The Bible is God's means of communicating to us. (Hebrews 1; 2 Timothy 3:16; 1 Peter 1:21)

- 1. God has given us all that we need to live a godly life through the knowledge of Jesus and his precious promises contained in the Bible. (2 Peter 1:3-4; Psalm 119:18)
- 2. Faith is nourished by the Word of God. (Romans 10:17; 2 Timothy 3:16-17)

B. Prayer.

- 1. As we find promises in Scripture, we are to take them back to God. (Hebrews 4:15-16)
- 2. There is a connection to the greater works God promises and asking. (John 14:12-14)

C. Fellowship.

- 1. One purpose of fellowship is to lift each other up. (Hebrews 10:24-25; Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)
- 2. Aspects of fellowship.
 - a. Sharing the Word of God. (Malachi 3:16; Deuteronomy 6:6)
 - b. Prayer. (Matthew 18:19-20)

D. Witnessing.

1. This is a matter of obedience. (Matthew 28)
2. The Great Commission is a matter of making disciples.
 - a. We start with sharing the gospel.
 - b. We then share with them the means for growth.
3. The greatest privilege of the Christian life is to be a witness to Jesus' power. (Acts 1:8)

Application questions:

1. What does it mean that Christ is the hub of the Christian life?

2. How would you distinguish the disciplines of the wheel from salvation by works? Explain.

3. Which spoke do you need to work on the most in order to bring your life into order under Christ? What is your plan for growth?
