

ANDREA SONYA

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CONSTRUCT

info@andreasonya.com

www.andreasonya.com

Guidance:

On the first day, begin with a few minutes where you read the Construct. Continue on to the first question in the lab, and write your thoughts in a notebook or journal. Address the additional questions in the lab at a pace that works for you. Reflect on any insight gained or growth in progress as you close out the Construct.

God's Expectations I

Matthew 6:10 says "...thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven... ."

When we think of expectations, it is natural to feel a sense of responsibility. This is exactly what God's word impresses on His children. We are not to be just hearers of the word, but doers (James 1:22). Though God would not impose His way on us, He expects us to seek His will for our lives, and apply the principles that we learn - both written and revealed - to our belief systems. When we apply His word to our life, we demonstrate our faith in obedience. Without faith, it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6).

God expects us to have a relationship with His Son. It is through Christ that we are justified unto God. Christ offers us salvation so that we may have life eternally, and through a relationship with Him, we have life abundantly. This means in challenging times, you are able to thrive. Jesus did not come to condemn the world, but to save the world (John 3:17). God wants you to spend eternity in heaven with Him, but you must first believe and accept Christ as your Savior. He then teaches you how to be in the world, but not of it.

God expects us to have peace because His word tells us to cast all of our cares on Him (Psalm 55:22). Jesus gave us His peace - for He is our Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6). However, we must accept the peace He offers. This positions you to mature and possess a fruit of the Spirit that is paramount to walking with the Lord. Know that when walking with God, you will go through mountains and valleys - and it is the consistency of standing in peace that allows your faith to not waiver - so that you keep on walking. Also, peace allows you to hear God more clearly.

God expects you to have faith. Each person is given a measure of faith (Romans 12:3). You demonstrate your faith in Him through your obedience and works. Know that the Lord will not expect you to possess something that He has not provided.

As you study the word of God, you will learn of the many expectations that the Lord has for His children. Truthfully, these translate to promises that free us from bondage. Hold yourself accountable to God's thoughts toward you, and exercise responsibility to be a doer of the word. As you do this, you position yourself to walk in the will of God.

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Prayer

Heavenly Father, You only expect of me what You put in me. You know what I am capable of, and can achieve. Create in me the capacity I need to grow in Christ. Help me to get into agreement with You, and exercise my faith in You, by Your grace. In Jesus Name I pray. Amen.

Practical Application / Lab

Notice the four areas discussed around God's expectations. Choose two expectations, and throughout the next several weeks, be intentional to work toward it. Write out your journey and specific insight gained.

Understand that this is a heart matter, but it starts with making a decision in your mind to submit to God's expectations. Allow the Holy Spirit to minister to you throughout this Construct.

God expects us to learn His word and apply biblical principles to our life.

God expects us to have a relationship with His Son, Jesus Christ.

God expects us to possess peace by accepting the peace that Christ offers, so that we can be at peace with God, and walk in peace with others.

God expects us to have faith in Him.