

# ARTICLES TO LIVE BY

Presented by  
Real Life Institute

## Entering the Excellence Zone

### Why we're called as Christians to be masters of life and beyond!

As Christians we should be at least as sharp and masterful of life as those in the world - and at a level beyond!

We should be living success stories of mastering the world's systems with relationships, money, health, mind & emotions, and spiritual connection - including powerful prayer & good study habits to be able to share the power and reasons for our faith, wisdom, and success in life!



We should naturally rise up to servant leadership positions. Our strong but gentle voices will be heard over the "toleration zone" we've acquiesced to in our society over the last 30+ years in particular. People looking for God will be attracted to the lifestyle and image we have as Christians forgiven and empowered by our faith through the amazing grace of God. They will also realize there is a cost to this life "set apart" for God. They will see and know the choice to be made very clearly.

Jesus increased in wisdom and favor with God and man. He was no slouch. He made the best of whatever he was given in the physical realm. He was excellent at his trade as a carpenter. He had the right perspective on money and material wealth. He had it together so he could accomplish his clear mission and move ahead as an example of being an empowered servant of the Most High God.

Since Jesus lived his life on earth as an example to us of excellence and mastery in all areas of life, should we not strive to live with the same high standards? I believe this is the perfection and the maturity of which he spoke. Although we all know we will never live a perfect life on earth, should we not be accountable and expect more of ourselves and God at work in us to eliminate the things holding us back from being our best?

Most of us have no clue as to how to be successful in the basic issues of life. That needs to be our first point of education and action. Whether we need to get clarity and help from pastors, counselors, psychologists, life coaches, financial and business advisors, wellness consultants, trainers, or other support experts, we need to just do it!

# ARTICLES TO LIVE BY

Presented by  
Real Life Institute

- Page 2 of 3 -

If we don't know where we are right now honestly in every area of our life, we will never change or improve or overcome those areas. They will always hold us back from our true potential, from what we could really become and do.



The verse God has impressed most upon me this season is: "A man skilled will serve before kings; not in obscurity" (Proverbs 22:9).

Our qualities of excellence and integrity will be rewarded! Only the best are called to positions of leadership and authority. Why just get by in life, wasting your time and efforts, relationships and opportunities? Why not step up to the higher calling of God on your life?

He believed so much in you he gave up his physical life to help you see a bigger vision, a higher place, a true spiritual overriding perspective. And it was this sacrifice that also gives you and me the power to overcome and push through responsibly and accountably for the new empowered life he came to give us.

Why the focus so much on the physical aspects of life, you may ask? Let me ask you this: have you known anyone who was so heavenly minded they were no earthly good?

I have unfortunately been greatly disappointed at times by Christians, particularly in the business realm. They have not been professional, not followed up or returned calls to do business with me, or did shoddy work or were not forthright in their dealings. Those kinds of people leave a bad taste in your mouth, especially when they are putting themselves forth as representatives of Christ. And how many times have you or someone you know gone to a church where the people there were not even as loving or kind as your humanistic neighbors?



It is easy to point a finger at "those hypocrites" but let's first examine ourselves before God (and men, as necessary) to determine the blind areas we may have that need some sprucing up! That does take a spirit of humility, to be willing to do some self-examination. But it also shows a maturity and recognition of the potential you have to be and do so much more for God's kingdom. And you will be blessed greatly in the process!

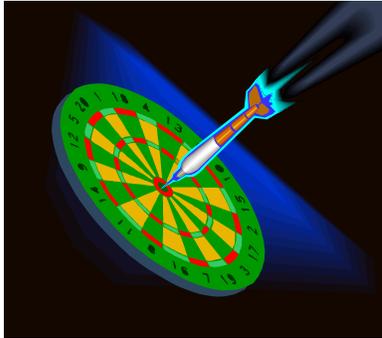
# ARTICLES TO LIVE BY

Presented by  
Real Life Institute

- Page 3 of 3 -

Jesus came to give us life more abundantly. That means he wanted us to get rid of the junk that was weighing us down and obstructing our path to his abundance for us. "As your soul prospers" so will you prosper. Doesn't the soul include both the real and practical parts of your life that are a result of your thoughts, attitudes, habits and actions? Can you seriously look at your life and say that you are truly a victim and that you had no choice in anything that has happened to you – either in putting yourself in those situations, allowing them to continue, or in your choice of attitude in dealing with them?

My challenge to you today is to look at the areas of your life where you're having the greatest struggle or dissatisfaction. Lay those areas on the altar before God.



Ask him to give you wisdom and insights to bring healing or change. While you're waiting for God's answer, actively wait by doing some research on answers to those areas. Find out those who may be sources of help, insight, or inspiration.

Then move ahead to commit to working through them with God's and his servants' assistance. You will live happier, healthier, and step into the true abundance of having a fat, joyful soul and spirit, lifting up the life and love that Christ came to give us on earth, as we wait for Heaven's gates to be opened!

---

Lois Gallo is a speaker, author, artist and life coach. She inspires many on her blog: [www.DailyFaithLessons.blogspot.com](http://www.DailyFaithLessons.blogspot.com). As president of Inspiration Connections, Inc., she developed [www.Real-Life-Institute.com](http://www.Real-Life-Institute.com) - a virtual training school with live events and coaching - to facilitate living life with passion and effectiveness in all areas. Visit the site for more articles, interviews, and resources to improve your life and develop your excellence.

+++++

This article appeared in the January 2009 issue of *The Church Guide*,  
Hampton Roads Monthly Christian Newspaper.