**Living the Moral Life Well**

**(And Helping Others along the Way)**

**Session 29**

Session Objectives: By the end of this session you should be able to:

1. Understand the importance of living a godly moral life as a Christian.
2. Know how to help those around us live lives that are morally pleasing to God.
3. Introduction:
4. Living the Moral Life:
5. Personally:
6. The Role of God’s Word and the Holy Spirit (Hebrews 4:12):
7. The Role of Spiritual Battle and Armor (Ephesians 6:10-20):
8. The Role of Repentance and Confession:
9. With God (1 John 1:9):
10. With Others (James 5:16):
11. The Role of Accountability (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12):
12. Communally (Hebrews 10:24-25):
13. Helping Others along the Way:
14. Within the Church: Church Discipline (Matthew 18:15-18):
15. Within the World:
16. Prayer and Evangelism:
17. Moral Discourse:
18. Moral Literature, Movies, and Music:

In the past, one might have challenged a moral point through reasoned argument, appealing to commonly accepted standards of right and wrong. But today, as I have discovered lecturing on campuses, young people have never been exposed to moral philosophy, but are indoctrinated instead into a perspective that treats morality as one of many strategies for self-development.

The upshot is that rational arguments no longer work. . . . Bill Bennet suggested that people today are all but impervious to moral philosophy and are more likely to be moved by moral literature. . . . Stories change us because they reach the whole person, not just the cognitive faculty. As we read, we identify with characters who demonstrate courage and self-sacrifice . . . and in the process, our own character is shaped.

Charles Colson and Nancy Pearcey in their essay on page 104 in the March 1, 1999 edition of *Christianity Today* entitled, “Moral Education After Monica.”

1. Moral Situations:
2. Legislation:
3. In a Spirit of Firm and Gentle Love (1 Corinthians 13:1-3; 1 Peter 3:15):
4. Conclusion:

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 5:14-16