

**There is Hope Radio**  
**6-15-25 Transcript**  
**Social Media Epidemic**  
**PreacherRichD**

All advice and counsel is given for informational purposes only. The following broadcast is sponsored by Standing in the Gap. Our focus is intercessory prayer for individuals, the community of Fairfield Bay, Arkansas, and America. Check us out on the web at [standinginthegap.creatingfutures.org](http://standinginthegap.creatingfutures.org). That's [standinginthegap.creatingfutures.org](http://standinginthegap.creatingfutures.org). Your radio host is the Let's Get Real PreacherRichD of Creating Futures.

I'm going to assume that most listening to this broadcast identify themselves as Christians, but the questions will apply if you the listener identifies as a Christian or not. I'm going to be asking what if questions regarding those who to be Christians. This broadcast originates out of Fairfield Bay, Arkansas, so some of my questions will be related to issues within Fairfield Bay, but I want you the listener to focus on the community where you live. Most likely some of the issues are similar.

Before I start asking questions, I want to start off by saying that I believe that those who are true followers of Christ, who live according to biblical principles found throughout scripture, can have a positive influence on a community. Now you may agree or disagree with my premise, but hear me out.

Listen to some of the what if questions I have for you and I to answer.

My very first question is, what if those who claim to be Christians are not truly born again, saved, blood-bought, true followers of Jesus Christ? Why is this question important? Because if someone is going to be a Christian but does not have a true relationship with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, they are not going to reflect the character of Christ and thus be a poor example of what it means to be a Christian. Their example will certainly cause individuals to disagree with my premise that those who are true followers of Christ and live according to biblical principles found throughout scripture will have a positive influence on a community.

In fact, those who do not reflect the character of Christ are going to cause individuals to believe Christians could be the worst thing for a community. Within Fairfield Bay, Arkansas, within your community, and all across America, there are those who claim to be Christians but their words, behavior, and lifestyle is not reflective of someone who has a true relationship with Jesus Christ. Maybe that is you.

You need to ask yourself, what if I do not have a relationship with Christ? Have you ever acknowledged and confessed your sins before God? Have you asked Jesus to give you the grace to truly repent of your sins? Have you repented of your sins and asked for Jesus to forgive you of your sins? Have you asked Jesus to become the Lord and Savior of your life? When you do things that are not good, do you feel the conviction of the Holy Spirit? If not, you can do that right now and become truly born again. Listen to me. If you have a saving relationship with Jesus Christ, you're truly born again, you are a true Christ follower.

God the Father, by the power of the Holy Spirit, will give you the grace, the ability to live a life of victory over sin, making it so you can be a positive influence in your home, workplace, and community.

My next question, what if Christians loved their enemies instead of hating them? They would certainly be a more positive influence in Fairfield Bay and in your community. So if you are a Christian, do you show love to those who hate you or do you hate them back? What do you reflect when on Facebook? Do you personally attack individuals? Do you resort to name calling, mocking, spreading rumors? If so, you need to repent. You're doing more harm than good to your community and to the Christian faith. Listen, Christians, stop reflecting hatred. Instead, do all you can to show love to those who disagree with you, those who hate you.

My next question, what if Christians lived a life that reflected the fruit of the Spirit? What is the fruit of the Spirit? Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Our communities would certainly be better off if those who call themselves Christians manifested the fruit of the Spirit on a consistent basis. My next question, what if Christians did all they could to find ways to bring unity instead of discord, to find ways they can work together with others for the good of the community? Volunteer with various organizations, bring joy in the midst of trouble and sorrow, find ways to be a peacemaker, find ways to be a mediator.

My next question, what if Christians would commit to stay in the gap for the community via a necessary prayer? What if Christians from local churches gathered together pray for the community? I mean serious prayer, prayer for repentance, prayer for forgiveness, prayer for the leaders to have divine wisdom. My next question, what if Christians took a stand against all evil, all injustice, not just the injustice that their political alliances call evil and unjust?

My next question, what if Christians lived according to the godly principles found in scripture, walking in righteousness and holiness by the power of the Spirit?

Well, I have one more question I'm going to ask, but I want to just mention the questions I've asked already so far. What if those who claim to be Christians are not truly born again, what if Christians loved their enemies instead of hating them? What if Christians lived a life that reflected the fruit of the Spirit? What if Christians did all they could to find ways to bring unity instead of discord? What if Christians would commit to stay in the gap for the community via intercessory prayer? What if Christians took a stand against all evil, all injustice? What if Christians lived according to godly principles found in scripture?

My final question, what if Christians were more Christ-like in their words, actions, behavior, and lifestyle? Now, I think everybody would say yes, we all need to be more Christ-like, Christian or not, but I have a challenge for you because sometimes when you hear to be more Christ-like, some have a wrong concept of who Jesus is.

In fact, too many Christians, too many non-Christians have an image of Jesus that is not biblical. Jesus is presented as a mushy, gushy, loving person with an anything-goes mindset. That is not the Jesus of the Bible, far from it.

Jesus did not have just nice things to say. Jesus did not remain silent on the subject of sin and judgment. Jesus was not a people pleaser. But at the same time, Jesus was not a hater, not a people basher. Jesus represented the true balance of hating the sin but loving the sinner. Jesus found the balance of speaking in truth and love. Jesus sacrificed and died for all who even those who cried out crucify him.

So I'm going to ask the question again, what if Christians were more Christ-like in their words, actions, behavior, and lifestyle? If so, they wouldn't have an anything-goes mindset. They would speak against things that are wrong. They would not be a people pleaser. But at the same time, they would not be a hater of individuals. They would not be a people basher. They'd be able to find ways to love individuals regardless of how they live and act and behave. They'd be able to speak truth and love, and they'd be willing to sacrifice for the sake of others, even sacrifice for the sake of a community. Here's the truth.

Jesus is an example for all of mankind, but certainly for Christians. Because without Christ in your life, there's no way to live like Jesus did on earth. It requires the Holy Spirit living within you to manifest the character of Jesus Christ.

So I go back to the statement I made at the beginning of this broadcast. True followers of Christ who live according to biblical principles found throughout scripture can have a positive influence in a community. If Christians would do all the what-ifs I mentioned, the community of Fairfield Bay, Arkansas, and other communities would be transformed. Why? Because individuals would be transformed, families would be transformed, businesses would be transformed, churches would be transformed. The end result is a community that's transformed.

As I am close to the end of this broadcast, I have a question for you. Do you call yourself a Christian? Are you truly born again? Are you fulfilling all the what-ifs I mentioned? If not, in what areas do you need to improve by the help of the Holy Spirit? If you're listening to this broadcast and you're not a Christian, what is stopping you from receiving Jesus as your Lord and Savior? I ask again, do you call yourself a Christian or are you truly born again? In order to have a saving relationship with Jesus so that your life can be transformed and so that you can live a life of victory over sin through his grace, there's just a few steps you have to take, but they need to be sincere and with a pure heart. And that's confess your sins before God. Ask God to give you the grace to truly repent from those sins. Ask Jesus to become the Lord and Savior of your life. In other words, ask him to take control of your life that you want him to reign in your life instead of you. If you sincerely follow those steps, you will have a saving relationship with Jesus Christ and he will do some amazing things in your life. There'll start to be a change and there'll be a transformation in you.

So the question is, if you can receive Christ as your Lord and Savior, that you can have eternal life, that you can live a life that you can overcome sin to the power of the Holy Spirit, what stops you from being a Christian? That is going to be the topic of our last broadcast. Again, the title is going to be, what is stopping you from receiving Jesus as your Lord and Savior? It will be our last broadcast on Timeless Radio KFFB 106.1 FM. Because we did not have any response to our appeal for funds to keep us in the air, we have no other option than to go off the air. However, There is Hope Radio will continue to be a podcast. We do have individuals that are helping to cover the cost for us to do a podcast each week.

So to listen to previous shows and upcoming podcasts, you can go to [www.creatingfutures.org/thereishope](http://www.creatingfutures.org/thereishope). You can listen to There is Hope podcast on Apple Podcast, iHeart, Podbean and Spotify by going to [www.creatingfutures.org/thereishope](http://www.creatingfutures.org/thereishope).

Well, like I do in every broadcast, I'm going to close in prayer. Lord, I pray for those who have been listening to this broadcast. I would ask Father God that if they claim to be a Christian, a Christ follower, that Lord God, they would take a look at these questions, the what if questions and ask themselves, am I walking those things out? Am I reflecting the character of Christ? Is there areas I need to improve in? Is there areas I need to change? And that they would pray and say, Lord, will you transform an area of my life that I can be an excellent representative of Jesus Christ? And that Lord, all of us fall short and when we do that Father God, that we would ask for your forgiveness and that we repent that we would turn around and do things differently by the power of your Holy Spirit. That we would be a good reflection of Jesus Christ and that Father God that we can be vessels of honor used by you to bring a positive transformation in whatever community that we live in. And that Father God that there would be those who would want to know the Jesus that we know because of the life that we live. Pray this in Jesus name.

By the way, I want to mention that if you go to our website, there will be a link to how to become born again, how to receive Jesus Christ, your Lord and Savior. It'll be frequently asked questions on Christianity, be other information there to help you in your spiritual walk. That's [www.creatingfutures.org/thereishope](http://www.creatingfutures.org/thereishope).

Thank you for tuning in.

You've been listening to there is hope and any advice or counsel given was provided for informational purposes only.

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