

## Doing Our Part, Not God's Part – Lesson

**Lesson summary:** It is not all God, nor is it only our efforts that change our lives for the better. We need to work together with God to bring about this transformation.

**PSALM 51:10 (NIV)**

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

**MATTHEW 5:48 (NIV)**

Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

1. There are things we cannot do on our own, like change our desires
2. There are things God will not do for us, like self-discipline, and renewing our mind.
3. What we want to do here is to do our part and seek God to do His part in us.

### What is our part?

Largely, it's doing what we can do to set ourselves up for a touch from God. Examples:

- Building structure in our lives and making time to seek God.
- Resisting sin until He touches you and causes you to stop desiring it.
- Fighting the attacks and temptations of the enemy as hard as you can.
- Asking for His help in times of stress and temptation or tension. (We cannot keep on white knuckling it without seeking Him in the times of stress.)
- Resisting any overindulgence. You can't change your desires, but if you are constantly indulging in them, you will delay God's work in you, or possibly stop it altogether.
- Seeking the fellowship and advice of godly people, especially in hard times.
- Trying to understand why others love God so much.

### What is God's part?

Largely His job is to do what we can't. Examples:

- Placing in us a hunger for more of Him.
- Diminishing the desires for the things of the world.
- Giving us the power we need to resist temptation, and the power to obey Him.
- Interrupting us in the midst of a weak moment when we have decided to sin.
- Throwing a "Holy Ghost Monkeywrench" into our plans to protect us.
- Healing us on the inside so we become whole.
- Setting us free inside so we rejoice more and fall deeper in love with Him.
- Shaping us to become the person He originally intended us to be.
- Being the wonderful, loving, faithful, forgiving Savior and Lord we want to give our lives to serve.
- Revealing ourselves to us, who we really are so we can change.
- Stabilizing us and giving us complete freedom.

What are some ways we try to take over God's part?

What are some ways that we can neglect our part?