



Twenty four hours a day, seven days a week.

24/7,

an expression for the totality of our existence in space and time.

Stores are open 24/7,

the internet is available 24/7,

people live on islands and in multi-camera equipped homes so that we can watch them 24/7

and we explain anything we are committed to as 24/7.

But the real question for us followers of Jesus is this,

“Is Jesus 24/7 in our lives?”

“IS JESUS CHRIST THE LORD OF OUR EXISTENCE?”

– Put it another way –

**“Do we live
compartmentalized lives
or integrated ones?”**

A compartmentalized life is like the food trays we used to get in the grade school cafeteria.

Everything on our plate in its own little compartment, nothing touching anything else.

An integrated life is one where all the separate parts function together from one central resource and authority.

An integrated life is like a big pot of vegetable soup,

made up of a variety of foods but one where the taste of the broth permeates every bite.

Integrated or compartmentalized this is our choice, 24/7 or whenever it works, what will it be?

A 24/7 PERSON

Take a look at a man named Stephen in Acts 7. Stephen was the first person to give his life as a follower of Christ, he had a deep passion to see others follow Jesus. Look at Acts 7:48-56. Who did Stephen see Jesus to be?

Read Acts 7:58-8:3. Why did they kill Stephen? Who witnessed and gave approval to Stephen's death? What was the goal of this man? What kind of believer was this persecutor continually confronted with?

Read Acts 22:1-21. Consider these questions: What was Saul's (Paul) purpose in Damascus? When Saul is confronted with Jesus by what name does Saul address Jesus? What is the question that Jesus asks Saul? What is Saul's question in response?

What is Saul's second question to Jesus? How does this question reveal what he realized to be true about Jesus?

THINK ABOUT IT!

What do you think is going off in Saul's brain when he hears Jesus' answer to his question, "Who are you, Lord?" [Keep in mind, this is Saul, who has been seeking to stamp out anyone who follows Jesus.] Write out a dialogue of the internal argument going on in his brain when he hears that the Lord he is speaking to is none other than Jesus.

A 24/7 PERSON

Look at II Corinthians 11:16-33. How does Paul (Saul) describe what happened to him because he obeyed his command to go to the Gentiles? [see Acts 9:10-19] What did it mean for Paul that Jesus is Lord?

Again from Acts 22, what were the two questions Saul asked Jesus? Why are these two important questions for us to be continually asking Jesus? For you today, who is Jesus, what does He want you to do?

A 24/7 PICTURE

Read Matthew 7:24-27. Draw four pictures below that correspond with these verses.

	Before the test	After the test
Hears the Word		
Hears and Obeys the Word		

Read Luke 6:46-49. In this passage, what question does Jesus ask before he tells this same parable? What is the difference between profession of Him as Lord versus possession of Him as Lord? How does obedience to His Lordship help us to stand when rough times come?

24/7 PRACTICE

Consider these different areas of life; what is Jesus' Word in each of these areas and how are you putting it into practice. [If you do not know any passages that correspond with these areas, wait until Bible study discussion and find out from others what they think and believe.]

Area	Jesus' Word	My application
<p>ROLES - What I do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- student- employee- citizen- church member- other		
<p>RELATIONSHIPS- Who I love</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- parents- siblings- friends- dating- marriage- other		
<p>RESOURCES - What I have</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- time- talent- treasure<ul style="list-style-type: none">• finances• giving		

24/7 PRACTICE

Area	Jesus' Word	My application
<p>RECREATION - Where I play</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- entertainment- vacation- hobbies- free time- other		
<p>RELIGION - What I believe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- walk with God- personal growth- worship- ministry- other		

Read Mark 9:17-31. How did Jesus reveal to the young man that he had yielded only a part of his life to God? (a compartmentalized life) What parts of life did Jesus ask His disciples to give to God? (an integrated life)

Now, stop and ask yourself, "Is Jesus Lord of my life, 24/7? What arenas of my life am I having trouble surrendering to His Lordship? Remember the two questions Paul asked Jesus? In each of the areas you are struggling with, who is Jesus and what does He want you to do?"

You see in reality Jesus is Lord whether you or I acknowledge it or not. His Lordship is not in question if we will not admit its reality. But if I acknowledge His Lordship I am submitting to the fact that He is Lord 24/7 and I've decided to live in light of that truth 24/7. Sure I'll mess up along the way, but I've chosen to follow Him with my whole life, 24/7. How about you?