

Building A Life of Commitment

(Commitment Series Part 4)

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Techie M. Rodriguez
Elder-Founder



THE LORD'S FLOCK GROW DIGEST

Many of us do not want to commit to anything; we would rather keep our options open. However, we cannot live without making commitments (to a relationship, to employment, etc). Without commitment, we will just drift without any purpose. The essence of love is commitment. Jesus is asking us “do you love Me?” We must be committed to follow him (John 20).

1. Our commitments have 3 effects on our lives:

1.1. Our commitments show our values.

- Values are beliefs and principles that we believe are important in the way we live.
- Values determine our priorities and guide our decisions and actions towards others.

1.2. Our commitments shape our life.

- We become whatever we are committed to. If we believe that making money, or being popular, or having a good time is the most important thing in life, then our lives will be shaped by those beliefs. Once we chose our commitments, **OUR CHARACTER IS SET!** Our life is the sum of our commitments; hence we must choose our commitments cautiously (Proverbs 4:23).

1.3. Our commitments shape our destiny.

- The commitments that we make determine not only the here and now, but also our eternity. If we resolve to make a long-term commitment with Christ, we are going to spend eternity with Him. “*What will a man give in exchange for his soul?*”

2. How do we build a life of value?

2.1. Choose our master. We cannot serve both God and mammon - possessions, property, money (Matthew 6:24). The allure of mammon might be subtle and if we worship them, our God will get pushed aside (1 Timothy 6: 9-10).

2.2. Clarify our vision. We are bombarded with visions that promise a better life but do not actually bring value to life. Jesus gives a different vision: a vision of the kingdom of heaven. In *The Beatitudes* (Matthew 5:1-12), Jesus describes a life which is not a place but a life under the reign of God. In Matthew 5:13-16, we are taught about the principles of right living, to be “salt of the earth and light of the world.” Let the light of God shine in us and through us (Matthew 6:22-23).

2.3. Invest in the kingdom of heaven. “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:21). We ought to store up possessions that are treasured in heaven: God’s glory, human relationships and the joy of righteous living. Jesus points out that treasures on earth are subject to decay. Let us use our finite minutes on earth wisely.

Conclusion:

Let us develop a relationship with God now! Let us set out to make the most of life – a life that is rich in God’s eyes and brings the kingdom rule of God into our lives. We must decide that Christ is our Master and align our vision with His vision for us.

Reflection:

1. What are you keeping in your “treasure chest?” Are they stuff that will be destroyed or stolen?
2. What are you committed to now? When faced with a crisis of faith, how will you choose?

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, please help us build a life that is completely committed to You. Teach us to stop serving other masters, to clarify our vision and to invest completely in Your kingdom. In Jesus’ name we pray – Amen.

SCRIBES MINISTRY: Transcribed by: Helen Angeles-Del Mundo

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