

Commitment Vs Convenience

(Commitment Series Part 5)

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THE LORD'S FLOCK GROW DIGEST

Is serving Jesus a commitment or a convenience? Many do not want to be totally committed to the Lord because it demands too much of them. It does require one's life, one's soul, one's being, not only twice a week, or even once a week, but all the time. Hence, many are committed only to what is convenient - when it is only suited to their comfort and ease. Jesus desires of us total commitment. When He decided to die on the cross for our sins, He had set the level of commitment that we should strive for: a commitment that is "ALL THE WAY" like His.

1. Being Totally Committed to God versus Living a Life of Convenience:

1.1. *The convenience of the self-serving.*

- a) The self-serving focus on themselves rather than on God. In Matthew 19:16-24, the rich young man wanted to follow Christ but he did not want to give up his riches. He was looking for a better way to get what he wanted rather than wanting God to make him a better man (Mark 8:36-37).
- b) Jesus wants us to get rid of earthly things and focus on serving and following Him unconditionally.

1.2. *Our actions speak louder than our words.*

- a) We are all instructed to work for the Lord (2 Tim 3:16-17).
- b) There is specific work to be done: to preach the gospel to all (Matthew 28:19).
- c) Being committed to service ought to be our top priority (Joshua 24:15).
- d) God watches both actions and words. While still alive, our service to God is not yet over.
- e) Serving God means giving of ourselves, unselfishly and not expecting anything in return – that is **servitude**:

2. *How can we have a total commitment to God?*

- 2.1 Pledge to focus on a relationship with Christ rather than on other things (Matthew 10:35-36).
- 2.2 Focus on denying ourselves and follow Christ rather than loving only ourselves (Matthew 10:39).
- 2.3 Focus on the source of Life rather than being self-serving (Matthew 10:39)

3. The lives of the committed shine for JESUS! We should then be committed to:

- a) God (Matthew 22:37)
- b) Christ (John 14:15)
- c) Church (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Conclusion: Let us be committed together for what is true according to God's Word (Prov. 27:17). Serve no matter what, no matter when.

Reflection:

1. Are you totally committed to God in every area of your life, or are you conveniently committed to Him for the sake of your comfort or ease?
2. How and what would you change to strengthen your commitment to God?

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, You love us so much that You had Your Son, Jesus Christ die for our sins, and that was a profound manifestation of His total commitment to us. We ask that You help us to no longer live in the realm of Christian convenience but rather decide to become totally committed to serving You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen!