Commitment

by Wayne Goff

Commitment is a key ingredient to the successful life of a Christian. Jesus taught this in many of His sayings.

- *"Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me'"* (Matt. 16:24). Self-denial is a form of commitment.

- *"He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me"* (Matt. 10:37). Putting Christ before family requires commitment.

- *"No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon"* (Matt. 6:24). Serving Jesus as your Master demands commitment.

"Commitment" defined is "dedication, a pledge, an undertaking; an obligation that restricts freedom of action." Some **concepts** which are included in the word are *responsibility, dedication, devotion, oath, contract,* and *resolution*. Consider the power of these words and the required effort to fulfill. Then ask yourself, *"Am I truly a committed Christian?"* You vowed to commit yourself when you obeyed the Gospel. Have you lost that dedication, or is it as strong as it was at the beginning?

"If you do not plan to live the Christian life totally committed to knowing your God and to walking in obedience to Him, then don't begin, for this is what Christianity is all about. It is a change of citizenship, a change of governments, a change of allegiance. If you have no intention of letting Christ rule your life, then forget Christianity; it is not for you" (*Kay Arthur*).

Someone once said, "There's a difference between **interest** and **commitment**. When you're interested in doing something, you do it only when circumstances permit. When you're committed to something, you accept no excuses, only results."

Be a committed Christian!

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