

Commitment

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Theme: To Show the requirements for commitment so a person can compare it to see what it is and how to do it.

Major Objective: To help the hearers to be more serious about their commitments and in keeping their word

Specific Objective: To inspire the hearers to be committed to their God and his walk.

Introduction: The world is void of commitment. This is evident in such activities as: divorce, the need for “civil rights,” the plethora of lawyers who are needed to word and interpret contracts correctly, the incessant need for people to say, “I promise.” Commitment is generally thought of as “giving your word.” As a Christian, our word is to be true.¹ We are to consider it in the light of “truth,” and since our Lord Jesus is the “truth,”² any commitment we give should be given in consideration of Him and we should stick by it as a testimony of our character and our love for Him.

Commitment Requires Devotion

If a person makes a commitment, that commitment should be a priority in their life. It should be something they are devoted to. To devote something means to “set it aside” in some special place in our lives. Therefore, we could say that the object of our devotion is “sanctified”³ in our lives.

What should we be devoted to:

- God.⁴
- Spouses.⁵
- Children.⁶
- Church.⁷

¹ James 5:12 But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and *your* nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

² John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

³ John 17:17-19 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

⁴ 1 Peter 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and *be* ready always to *give* an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

⁵ Ephesians 5:28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

⁶ Luke 18:16 But Jesus called them *unto him*, and said, Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.

⁷ Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some *is*; but exhorting *one another*: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

- Bible reading.⁸
- The great commission.⁹

Commitment Requires Decision

- Exercising our Free will.¹⁰
- Brings responsibility.¹¹
- Demonstrates Leadership.
- Demonstrates what/whom we love.
- Determines our character.
- Inspires others.

Requires Determination

- Steadfastness.¹²
- Faithfulness.¹³
- Endures Criticism.¹⁴
- Overcomes distractions of the world.¹⁵

Acts 4:18-22 And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard. So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding nothing how they might punish them, because of the people: for all *men* glorified God for that which was done. For the man was above forty years old, on whom this miracle of healing was shewed.

⁸ 1 Timothy 4:13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

⁹ Matthew 28:19-20 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

¹⁰ Joshua 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

¹¹ 1 Corinthians 4:15-16 For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet *have* ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel. Wherefore I beseech you, be ye followers of me.

¹² 1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

¹³ 1 Corinthians 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

¹⁴ Luke 23:1-3 And the whole multitude of them arose, and led him unto Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying, We found this *fellow* perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that he himself is Christ a King. And Pilate asked him, saying, Art thou the King of the Jews? And he answered him and said, **Thou sayest it.**

¹⁵ 1 John 5:4-5 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, *even* our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?