

East Jackson Church of Christ – Midweek Bible Class

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

Is A Committed Life

A. The Call To A Committed Life

Food for thought:

1. What are “two sides” of Jesus’ call?
2. What do we learn from the image of a “yoke”?
3. Name some things in life to which you are committed?

1. The call of Jesus is a call to be _____ to him. Matthew 18:28-30

a. We answer His call _____ what He can do _____.

(1) v. 28b He gives us _____ from being labored and _____

(2) v. 29b He gives us _____ for our _____

b. We answer His call also realizing what _____ toward Him.

(1) V. 28 We must take His _____ or be _____ to Him.

(a) a yoke is a heavy wooden frame that harnessed two animals together. Often one animal would be younger or _____ with the yoke and the other an older or _____ animal. The inexperienced animal would learn from the older animal.

2. The yoke indicates a commitment to _____ and to _____.

a. this is a _____ and _____ surrender to the will of Christ.

b. Mark 8:34-38, to follow Jesus we must be committed to:

- _____ ourselves

- _____ to self (take up our cross)

- being _____ toward our Savior (and follow me)

3. This yoke indicates the _____ the greatest love of all (Ephesians 2:4-7) and _____ the greatest of our love (Matthew 22:37).

a. To love God is to be committed to keep His _____, John 14:15; 1 John 2:3).

4. Notice that our commitment to other things in life (work, family, other pursuits) can leave us feeling weighed down and _____. However taking on the yoke of Christ leads us to _____ to our souls.

B. The Character Of A Committed Life

Food for thought:

1. How would you describe or what is indicative of a committed life?
2. What is a definition of commitment

5. The committed life is _____ one of _____

a. What does Matthew 6:24 say regarding this matter?

- (1) _____ serve (be a slave to) two masters (same word, *kyrios*, as lord)
- (2) Will end up _____ one _____ than the other

b. What does Luke 14:25-33 say about this matter?

- (1) v. 26 Cannot love (or be committed to) _____ more than to Jesus
- (2) v. 27 Cannot refuse to _____ -- _____ if you follow Jesus;
- (3) v. 33 Cannot love (or be committed to) _____ rather than Jesus.

6. The committed life is one of _____

a. Mark 8:35 Commitment to Christ involves _____ (allow to perish) one's life
(_____ and _____) in order to _____ life.

(cf. Philippians 3:7-8)

b. It is defined as "a _____ to a position; to be morally _____ to do. It is a "state of being _____ or _____ bound to a course of action". (American Heritage Dictionary)

c. In the New Testament, it means to _____ to the _____ of another
(*paratithēmi* as used in 1 Timothy 1:18; 6:20 and 2 Timothy 1:13-14 in speaking of what was committed to _____ and in 2 Timothy 1:12 regarding what _____ committed to the _____.

d. Therefore, a committed life is one in which the Christian has given over
_____ of treasure, life, everything he/she has to the trust of the Lord. We
_____ ourselves of ourselves and turn the vessel over to Christ and into His trust (cf. Romans 12:1-2).

C. The Core Of The Committed Life

Food for thought:

1. What is the bottom line characteristic of a committed life?

2. What is notable about the difference in Peter's response to threat in Luke 22 and that of Acts 4 and 5?

3. That bottom line: are you there yet?

7. A "core" refers to the most _____ and material part of a matter or an object.

8. The core of commitment is that one and all important thing that you have to _____ with and without it there is _____ commitment.

9. Learning about a committed life from Peter, who certainly said that He was committed to Christ.

a. John 6:68-69

(1) v. 68 Peter suggested that they were committed because they realized that regarding _____, there was _____ else to go than to Jesus in order to access it.

(2) v. 69 Peter stated that they _____ and were _____ (knew, perceived, understood) that Jesus is the Christ (Messiah; Anointed One of God), the son of the Living God.

b. Luke 22:31-34

(1) v. 33 Peter stated that he was so committed to Christ that he was willing to be cast in _____ with the Lord and even _____, if he had to.

(a) However, what happened when that commitment was tested? See v. 54-62,

c. Compare that to his response in Acts 4:18-21; 5:40-41:12:5

(1) In "a" & "b" above, Peter said that he was willing to die for Christ, but his _____ told a _____ story.

(2) In "c" Peter showed that he was so committed to Christ that he was _____ willing to (and eventually did) _____ for Christ.

10. The _____ of the committed life is the willingness to _____ for that which we are committed to.

a. The example of Paul, Acts 20:24; 21:13

11. Being actually willing to die for Christ is possible when we

a. _____ have _____ (cf. Galatians 2:20; Colossians 3:1-5; Romans 6:6

- b. Are _____ in _____ dying (cf. 1 Peter 1:3; Romans 8:11; 1 Corinthians 15:51-57)

The Confirmation Of A Committed Life

Food for thought:

1. how do we show that we are living a committed life?

12. The apostle Paul is an example of a committed life. He teaches us to follow His _____ (1 Corinthians 11:1). We learn some thing about a committed life from Paul's word in Philippians 1:19-26.

a. v. 20-21 The committed life is demonstrated in _____ to Christ (see again Galatians 2:20).

(1) This means that we do _____ the Lord says for us to do.

(2) Abraham showed this kind of loyalty to God (Hebrews 11:8, 17; Romans 5:20)

b. v. 24-26 The committed life is demonstrated in _____

(1) Who was Paul more concerned about: himself or these saints? _____

(2) Matthew 22:37-40 The two greatest commandments are:

(a) to love _____, and

(b) to love our _____ (especially those of the household of faith, Galatians 6:10; 1 John 4:7-12)

c. v. 22; 2:12-13 The committed life is demonstrated in _____ (cf. 1 Corinthians 15:58; Acts 20:19-21, 24b)