

Part 2 (Lesson 16)

Commitment, Faithfulness, and Service

When we become a Christian we also become a child of God and a part of God's household. Like every other family, there are privileges and responsibilities as a member of God's family. Being a Christian involves commitment to God and to others. As a child of God we're called to faithfulness and to service. The Christian life is not to be wasted in laziness or selfishness. In this lesson we will look at what the scriptures have to say about commitment, faithfulness and service.

I. Commitment

- A. "Commit" "to entrust, to give in charge, to pledge or bind."
- B. Examine Acts 2:42-47. Comment on the commitment these believers had to God and to one another. (They were committed to learning the Word of God, to prayer, to fellowshipping together, to sharing their meals together and to sharing their possessions with one another.) (Commitment is beyond a casual agreement.)
- C. As a believer, what have you become a part of? (Ephesians 2:19-22) (God's household and a holy temple in the Lord)

Every household or family involves commitment to one another.

D. How is our commitment to God expressed in Romans 12:1-2? (We are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice to God, which is our act of spiritual worship.)

E. 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 shows us something that has been committed to us which we should in turn be committed to: (The ministry of reconciliation and the word of reconciliation, bringing people back into a relationship with God.)

Also see Matthew 28:18-20 (We are called to make disciples, being committed to teaching people to know and do all the ways of Jesus Christ.)

II. Faithfulness

- A. Give a definition of faithfulness: (Being true to your commitment to something all the way through to the end.)
- B. How is the faithfulness of God expressed in Numbers 23:19 and Hebrews 13:5? (God is always faithful to keep and fulfill His Word and He will never leave us not forsake us.)

(Note: We are to become like Him in character)

- C. List the Fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23 (Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control)
- D. Think about how the principle of faithfulness is seen to be very important even in the secular world (e.g. job, sports teams, organizations, etc.)
- E. What motivation to faithfulness do you see in Colossians 3:23-24? (It is the Lord Jesus who we are serving. We will reap the reward of an inheritance.)
- F. What further admonition about faithfulness is found in Luke 16:10-11? (Are stewardship and use of the things God has placed in our lives now shows whether or not we are faithful and determines what is given unto us in the life to come.)

G.	Consider practical ways faithfulness affects church life (e.g. attendance, giving, carir									ing, caring
for	one	anothe	r, nursei	y, usheri	ng, pray	er, etc.)(Write do	wn some	of your	thoughts)

III. Service

A. Please give a definition of service: (Actions which are intended to meet specific needs of others, the ones whom the service is directed toward.)

(Notice again here that service is exalted in the secular world though not often found)

- B. What instruction do we have in Galatians 6:9-10? (We are not to lose heart in doing good but we are to do good to others while we can, especially to other believers.)
- C. How are we told to use our freedom in Christ Jesus? (Galatians 5:13) (We are to use our freedom in Christ as an opportunity to serve one another through love.)
- D. What attitude toward one another is expressed in Philippians 2:3-5? (Also 1 Peter 5:5) (We are to consider others greater than ourselves and we are to care about the needs of others, not just our own needs and concerns.)

(Notice the attitude and actions of Jesus in John 13:5-15)

- E. We serve one another when we come to church if we: (Encourage one another and minister to one another.) (Hebrews 10:24-25) (Ephesians 5:15-21)
- F. How is our service to God seen in these verses?

Hebrews 9:14 (We are cleansed by the blood of Jesus so that we can now serve God.)

Romans 12:1 (We are to worship God by offering our bodies to God as a living sacrifice.)

Galatians 2:20 (We are crucified to our old selfish life and now live for Jesus.)

Final Thoughts From This Lesson							