

Article for December 29, 2024
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Weaver's Writings:

The Value of Commitment

We live in a world where commitments are often viewed as optional. As Christians, we are called to live counter-culturally. Commitment is not just a principle, it's at the very heart of our relationship with God. Jesus said, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me" (Luke 9:23, ESV). Following Christ requires unwavering dedication, not half-hearted efforts.

Our first and greatest commitment must be to God. When asked about the greatest commandment, Jesus responded, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" (Matthew 22:37, ESV). Loving God fully means prioritizing Him above all else—above our careers, hobbies, and even relationships. This commitment is not passive; it is active. It involves consistent prayer, study of God's Word, and living according to His will. It means choosing God's ways even when they conflict with the world's values.

Commitment to God naturally leads to commitment to His people. The church is described as the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:27), and each member has a role to play. Hebrews 10:24-25 reminds us to "consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some." Being committed to the church means more than just attending worship services. It means actively serving, building relationships, and being present for others in their joys and struggles. It means making sacrifices for the good of the body, just as Christ sacrificed Himself for us.

As followers of Christ, we are also called to be committed to others. This includes our families, friends, and even our enemies. Commitment to others means being dependable, showing love, and forgiving as Christ forgave us (Colossians 3:13). In marriage, commitment reflects the covenant relationship between Christ and the church (Ephesians 5:31-32). In parenting, it involves raising children "in the discipline and instruction of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4).

While commitment often requires sacrifice, the rewards are eternal (2 Timothy 4:7-8). May we strive to be people of commitment, knowing that

our faithfulness reflects God's own unchanging faithfulness to us. Commit yourself fully to God, His church, and His people. The value of commitment is not just in what it accomplishes today, but in the eternal legacy it leaves.