



Sunday, April 7, 2019

MAKE A QUIET COMMITMENT:

- QUIET your mind and soul before the LORD — *“Be still, and know that I am God”* (Psalm 46:10)
- COMMIT to obedience: *Commit* to doing whatever God will say to you in this message — *“to obey is better than sacrifice”* (1 Samuel 15:22)

I. The WEALTH of the Believer (1:1-3:21)

- A. The Christian and His RICHES (1:3-23)
- B. The Christian and His RECONCILIATION (2:1-22)
- C. The Christian and His REVELATION (3:1-21)
 1. What was REVEALED (1-13)
 2. What was to be REALIZED (14-21)
 - a. Paul’s PRAYER (14-19)

i. His PRACTICE in Praying—SURRENDER (14-16a)

His prayer is marked by an ATTITUDE of SUBMISSION as he approaches his heavenly Father ACKNOWLEDGING His SOVEREIGNTY and SUFFICIENCY. He comes before God’s throne of grace in humility, worshipping His mighty God as he acknowledges what God has done and what He can do.

ii. His PURPOSE in Praying—STRENGTH (16-19)

He prays, not only with the right perspective, but also with purpose. He realizes that a Christian must have spiritual strength in order to faithfully serve and represent their Master, Jesus. In order for this to be a reality, there are some things that are prerequisite.

a) The Christian's RENEWING--Surrender (16b)

2 Corinthians 4:16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward *man* is renewed day by day.

1) He does not STIFLE the Spirit of God

1 Thessalonians 5:19 Quench not the Spirit.

Ephesians 4:30 And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

James 4:17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good [*the right thing*], and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Our response to sin should be immediate confession and forsaking that sin.

Proverbs 28:13 He that covereth his sins [*refusal to admit guilt*] shall not prosper [*having the peace of God*]: but whoso confesseth [*acknowledge my sin*] and forsaketh [*turn from my sin*] *them* shall have mercy.

2) He STEPS with the Spirit of God

The key to being "*strengthened with might by His Spirit*" is to "*walk in the Spirit*" (Galatians 5:16). The inner man is renewed being strengthened by the Holy Spirit as the believer **YIELDS** to Him.

Keep in mind that every time you **CHOOSE TO YIELD** to God's Spirit in obedience to His will, your inner man is **STRENGTHENED**. Conversely, every time you **REFUSE TO YIELD** to the God's Spirit in disobedience your inner man is **WEAKENED**.

3) He STUDIES the Word of God

Colossians 3:16 Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly [*abundantly*] in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with open face [*unobstructed view*] beholding as in a glass the glory of the **Lord**, are changed [*metamorphosis*] into the same image from glory to glory, *even* as by the **Spirit** of the **Lord**.

How does this take place?

i) Deliberate SATURATION

James 1:25 But whoso looketh [*to look with great care*] into the perfect law of liberty [*the Word of God*], and continueth [*faithfully perseveres*] therein, he being not a forgetful hearer [*heedless listener*], but a [*active / obedient*] doer of the work, this man shall be blessed [*honored / privileged*] in his deed.

ii) Disciplined STRUCTURE

1 Timothy 4:15-16 Meditate [*be diligent*] upon these things; give thyself wholly to [*be totally immersed*] them; that thy profiting [*sanctification progress*] may appear to all. **16** Take heed [*pay attention*] unto thyself, and unto the doctrine [*your teaching*]; continue in them [*be faithful*]: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself [*a faithful testimony is evidence of a genuine conversion*], and them that hear thee [*a faithful testimony aids others in their salvation & sanctification*].

For one there needs to be a diligent study of the Word of God (**2 Timothy 2:15**). Second, there needs to be meditation (**Psalm 1:2**; **Psalm 119:15**) and memorization (**Psalm 119:11**) of the Word of God.

Our Pursuit & Pledge:

Psalm 119:15 I will meditate in **Thy** precepts, and have respect [*to look intently*] unto **Thy** ways.



Our WORTHY WALK is marked by a life of PRAYER with PURPOSE. He understands that he is RENEWED through SURRENDER. He intentionally seeks to refrain from STIFLING the in-working of GOD'S SPIRIT while WALKING IN STEP with Him as he diligently STUDIES the WORD OF GOD.

What is my next step? Please consider doing the questions on the back of this page.



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What Is My Next Step?

Hearing — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it — James 1:21-25

Doing — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ — Eph. 4:22-24

Date: _____ Text: _____ Speaker: _____

1. What did God show **me** that **I** must confess and forsake because it does not reflect Christ and hurts **my** relationship with Him and others? (***Put OFF SIN***)
2. What did God show **me** about Himself in this text? (***Renew your mind***)
 - a. What is He like?
 - b. What does He like?
 - c. What does He dislike?
3. What does God say to me in this text? (***Renew your mind***)
 - a. What command to obey?
 - b. What promise to claim?
 - c. What principle to apply (*If I do _____, then God will do _____*)?
 - d. What example to follow?
4. What verse(s) should **I** memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make **my** change lasting? (***Renew your mind***)
5. In light of what **I** have heard from God, ... (***Put ON CHRIST***)
 - a. What character quality of Jesus must I demonstrate *with God's help* this week?
 - b. In what situations will I most likely be tempted not to respond in a Christ-like way?
 - c. How can **I** get ready for those situations? (*If I don't have a plan for change, it probably won't happen.*)



OUR MISSION: Supremely love GOD,
Sacrificially love others
—ALL to the GLORY of GOD!