

Commitment Always Has A Cost - Bible Study Lesson

Hebrews 12:1-3 (MSG)

12 1-3 Do you see what this means—all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we'd better get on with it. Strip down, start running—and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed—that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And now he's there, in the place of honor, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he plowed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your souls!

Last Sunday was Palm Sunday- The Bible records that a whole city threw a parade for Jesus. As Jesus rode into the city, the people threw Palm branches in anticipation of his arrival. Thus, we call it Palm Sunday. This day marked a time of celebration where Jesus was worshipped and praised as the king who would conquer the Roman Empire. However, His assignment was so much greater than that. Only Jesus knew the costs, His commitment to God's Will would necessitate. It's the same for us. There is so much more required of us to fulfill God's Will than we realize. With this in mind, let's examine: **Commitment Always Has A Cost.**

Luke 22:42 (NIV)

Jesus said, 'Father, if You are willing, take this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done.'

Our will must submit to the will of God, if we are to fulfill His call on our lives. The Popular Opinion of others is included there as well. When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the crowd shouted "Hosanna!" But, within days, many were yelling "Crucify Him!" We will never fulfill the call of God on our lives if the crowd has to be in agreement. Often we won't fulfill the call of God on our lives because we're not in agreement. Very seldom does what we want and what God wants lineup perfectly. However, His Will is much better

than our plans. **Commitment isn't based on applause; it's anchored in obedience.**

1. Commitment to God's Will often requires submitting our own.

Hebrews 12:2 (NLT)

We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne."

Jesus knew what awaited Him after Palm Sunday. The celebration and accolades were nice. However betrayal, suffering, and death we're on the way. The Bible records vividly, many are the afflictions of the righteous. But God delivers us out of them all. Jesus suffered much opposition. Yet, he pressed forward. That must become the way we live our lives. **True commitment endures beyond convenience.**

2. Commitment to God's will requires holding on despite opposition.

Matthew 21:5 NLT

Tell the people of Jerusalem, 'Look, your King is coming to you. He is humble, riding on a donkey— riding on a donkey's colt.'

Matthew 23:12 (NLT)

"But those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

The King of Glory chose a donkey over a stallion in order to model humility and fulfill prophecy. Our commitment to God's Will must be clothed in humility and not pride. Pride pushes us to seek recognition; humility pushes us to seek God. **It takes true humility to admit I need God. As**

bright and brilliant as we may be, we must humble ourselves and admit, we don't have it all together.

3. Commitment to God's Will requires the humility to seek Him.

Luke 9:23 (AMP)

“And He was saying to them all, “If anyone wishes to follow Me [as My disciple], he must deny himself [set aside selfish interests], and take up his cross daily [expressing a willingness to endure whatever may come] and follow Me [believing in Me, conforming to My example in living and, if need be, suffering or perhaps dying because of faith in Me].”

Jesus' entry into Jerusalem was the beginning of His sacrifice. Often, we fail to count the cost of Christian Commitment. Commitment will cost us time, comfort, and even relationships. But, it's worth it. **“Sacrifice today is the seed for supernatural success tomorrow.”- Apostle I. V. Hilliard**

4. Commitment to God's will always demands sacrifice.

Philippians 1:6 (NLT)

“And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.”

Jesus' commitment didn't end at the cross. It continued to resurrection and beyond. Our commitment to God doesn't end at salvation. That's when it really begins. If we will allow God to work a work in our hearts, He can really use us to be a blessing to others in the world. **Our commitment positions us to fulfill God's plan for our lives.**

5. Commitment to God's will positions us for Kingdom purpose.

Commitment is the bridge between the promise and the performance. Remember, God's job is performance. Our job is faith and obedience. Proof of this is our commitment to God and his will. As we reflect on Jesus' path from Palm Sunday to the cross, let's renew our dedication to God's purpose; not just in word, but in action. Stay in faith and stay committed. Your resurrection moment is coming soon as well. Remember: Commitment Always Has A Cost.