

THE RISE OF THE UNCOMMITTED

WHY IT MATTERS FOR MINISTRY

“And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”

~ 2 Timothy 2:2

1. Commitment Lost

- a. 2 Tim 2:2 – We are instructed to commit Paul’s ministry to those who will commit to do it
- b. Commit ~to engage, entrust,pledge,partake; do or declare that which binds in good faith
- c. We live in a world where few make that commitment, or any commitment at all:
- d. History, heritage, tradition, institutions, duties, jobs, marriage, children, service, church
- e. Non-denominationalism (failure to commit a doctrine) led to the unaffiliated... why?

2. Technology and the Present

- a. Titus 2:10 – Demas disease → not looking past the present
- b. Updates constantly improve – technology gets better and better, why commit?
- c. History, heritage,tradition are not things to ignore, but to consider–2Th 2:15,Eph 1:11,18

3. Amusement / Entertainment / Sports

- a. Amusement ~ something that grabs your attention, a distraction of mind with pleasure
- b. The opposite of sport is work, vocation, sobriety – Titus 2:6-7, Eph 4:1, 2 Tim 2:15?
- c. If its only a game, a movie, a tv show, an act, art, then there is no long term obligation
- d. When fun & pleasure are the pursuit, then work/suffering not worth it –2Ti 4:5, Eph 4:12
- e. Ironically, all things that have great worth take work, time, ministry.

4. Ignorance and Fear

- a. Ignorance breeds lack of commitment: don’t know, don’t care, why make the effort?
- b. Fear of being wrong, death, disappointing others, rejection, meaninglessness, failure
- c. Ignorance and fear paralyze and prevent you from doing that which you should - 2Ti 1:7
- d. Commitment is related to making promises like betrothal and parenthood
- e. Nothing gets done when you are merely waiting for dreams to come true

5. Personal Liberty

- a. Freedom is granted by the Lord – we can be free of everything but God/truth/life
- b. Don’t let your liberty be a stumbling block to others – 1 Cor 8:9

6. Love for the Lord

- a. 2 Tim 3:4 – lovers of pleasure (self, things) more than lovers of god
- b. Commitment is an expression of faith, hope, and love
- c. Why won’t he commit? You know it brings his love into question, right?
- d. People want to be more – but you are complete in Christ, right? – Col 2:10
- e. Love the Lord more than your spouse, your children, your job and you will do God’s will

7. A Call for Faithful Men

- a. Not call to commit your life or rededicate your life to the Lord (churchianity)
- b. God is not a spiritual advisor, moral guide, of offering free trials – he is Truth.
- c. Faithfulness / commitment results from partaking in that which you are bound to do
- d. Your life is the Lord’s, you are bought with a price – 1 Cor 6:20, 1 Tim 1:18-19
- e. You are committed in Christ, be faithful to your commission – 1Tim 6:20, 2 Cor 5:19
- f. Your life is being given to what you engage in, commit to ministry – 2 Tim 1:7-8, 13-14
- g. We need more who will hold the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience – 1 Tim 3:9