

Set Free Devotional #11

by

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Friday, March 27 2 Corinthians 9:7 “Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

Attitude is important. Attitude determines if something we say brings a smile to others or a tear. Attitude decides victory or defeat in many instances. Attitude betrays what we really think about the situation and what we are truly like on the inside where only God sees. Attitude says way more than we ever intended to communicate about what kind of person we are.

So is it any surprise that the Holy Spirit talked to us through Paul about attitude? Our whole relationship with God is based on giving. We receive grace, mercy, love, forgiveness, holiness from God as gifts to those who believe on Him and call out in repentance. We give unto God our sins, failures, mistakes and disasters which He then washes from our lives in the Blood of His Son. God gives us a new life, we become new creatures in Him because of His giving us redemption. We give God our worship and strive to be Christlike so that God may give to others eternal salvation through our witness, testimony and living sacrifice. Christian life is all about giving.

The attitude we give in (work, praise, money, etc.) determines the genuine quality of the gift. If our gift to God is begrudged, resentfully parted with, or forced because others are watching it is not a gift to God. Those attitudes make our giving to God a mockery of salvation. With what attitude did Jesus leave heaven for the manger? With what attitude did Jesus work miracles of healing? With what attitude did Jesus go out to meet his arrestors and take up his cross for you and me? My favorite picture of Jesus that I always had in my study was one of Jesus laughing. Why? Because Jesus was always full of joy in doing His Father’s will. Do we have that joy the world cannot touch? Are we truly made like Christ in our salvation so that we might give all we have, all we are, all we hope in gladness that God’s will might be done on earth as it is in heaven?

Suggested Prayer:

“Our Father, hallowed by thy name. Your kingdom come, your will be done. On earth as it is in heaven.”
And Lord, please make my entire relationship with you about giving back with joy filled gratitude for your saving, unmerited grace. Amen”