**Series: Be Committed**

**“Be Committed to Our Lord Jesus Christ”**(Sunday Morning April 21st, 2024)

**Passage: Luke 14:25-35**

***Mark 12:29-30* *“29 …’The first of all the commandments is*** (This One)***: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God,
 the Lord is one. 30 And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your
 soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment”*** (NKJV)

***Eph 5:25 (Reference)***

***Matt 6:33 “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you”*** (NKJV)

**If we will keep God first in our life, everything else that we need in life will f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ into p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

***Col 1:18 (Reference)***

***Heb 13:5*  *“…He*** (Meaning God)…***will never leave you or forsake you.”***

**I. We Should Love Our Lord More Than Any P\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - *vs 25-26***

***Mark 7:9-13 (Reference)***

***Mark 10:16 (Reference)***

***Luke 6:27 (Reference)***

***Matt 10:37* *“He who loves father or mother* MORE *than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son
 or daughter* MORE *than Me is not worthy of Me”*** (Emphasis Added)

**Jesus meant that our love for Him should be so great that all of our other loves should seem like hate
by way of c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

***2 Cor 6:14 (Reference*)**

***Gen 22:2 “He*** (God) ***said, ‘Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land
 of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will
 tell you.’”***

***Gen 22:12 “…now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me."***

***Gen 22:12* *“…I know that God is first in your life –*** (Because) ***you have not withheld even your beloved son
 from me."* (TLB)**

**In my opinion, it is c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, more often than not, that begin to take over the first place position in people’s lives.**

**II. We Should Love Our Lord More Than Any P\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - *vs 27***

***Luke 9:23 “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me”***

***Rom 12:1 “Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy
 sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship”***

**Paul calls this being a living sacrifice, and as someone once said, *“The problem with a living sacrifice is that***

***it keeps c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ o\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the altar.”***

***Phil 2:3-4 “3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another
 as more important than yourselves; 4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests,
 but also for the interests of others”***

***Rom 15:1-2 “1 Now we who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength and not just
 please ourselves. 2 Each of us is to please his neighborfor his good, to his edification”***

**This involves more than giving up our own purposes and ambitions and preferences for God; this also involves giving them up for o\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as God may d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ us.**

***Isa 53:6 “All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to* HIS OWN WAY*;…”*** (Emphasis Added)

***John 15:16 “...whatever you*** (Disciples) ***ask of the Father in My name He will give it to you”*** (Paraphrase)

***Rom 12:1-2 (Turn and Read)***

**III. We Should Love Lord More Than Any P\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - *vs 33***

***Matt 6:24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted
 to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth”***

**Wealth is a great S\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but it is a terrible M\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

 **a. We Cannot Succeed C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Without Being Seriously Committed**

 **i. First, Jesus Told a Story About Building a Tower**

***vs 28-30 (Read)***

 **ii. Second, Jesus Told a Story About Going Into Battle**

***vs 31-32 (Read)***

 **b. We Cannot Succeed I\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Without Being Seriously Committed**

***vs 34-35 (Read)***

***Matt 8:20 “Jesus said to him, ’The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has
 nowhere to lay His head”***

***Matt 13:45-46 “45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls, 46 and upon finding one
 pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.”***