



## Cross Roads – Service and Sacrifice

**Life Point:** God has \_\_\_\_\_ us with our lives, and everything in them, so that we will faithfully use them for His \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. All true believers should wrestle with the truth that we have been given one \_\_\_\_\_ and one shot to make it \_\_\_\_\_ for eternity.

→ 'How' do we make our lives count for eternity?

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. **Ephesians 2:8-10**

- We are literally \_\_\_\_\_.
- We have been \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ (something only God can do)...
- for the purpose of doing \_\_\_\_\_...
- which God has already \_\_\_\_\_ in order that we might \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_.

**We make it count by \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_: God's \_\_\_\_\_ for our \_\_\_\_\_.**

- Jesus told the Father: 'I have brought you glory by completing the work you gave me to do' **John 17:4**
- God has laid out a path for our lives filled with \_\_\_\_\_ to use our (God given) \_\_\_\_\_. **Matthew 25:15**
- These opportunities will be characterized by: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

**Life Question:** If God intends to make me more like \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 8:29), and the life of Christ was \_\_\_\_\_ by service and sacrifice, then shouldn't my \_\_\_\_\_ be as well?

**The heart of a man who made it count:** Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand...I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, **I worked harder than all of them**—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me...If it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith...if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men...As for us, why do we endanger ourselves every hour? **I die every day**...If I fought wild beasts in Ephesus for merely human reasons, what have I gained? If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die." ...Listen, I tell you a mystery...we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed...my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always **give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord**, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. (1 Corinthians 15)

- Paul \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ hard for Christ' sake...
  - but not by His \_\_\_\_\_ power.  
We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me.  
**Colossians 1:28-29**

- There is a correlation in scripture between \_\_\_\_\_ for the Lord and experiencing a \_\_\_\_\_ level of His \_\_\_\_\_.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ between your \_\_\_\_\_ and what is required to accomplish a God given task is filled by the \_\_\_\_\_ of your Master.

- Paul died everyday – by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - God calls us to a walk with Him that is \_\_\_\_\_ not \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The only sensible reason to do this was the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Paul \_\_\_\_\_ other believers to do the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - They were to give it all – for a \_\_\_\_\_.

→ Are there \_\_\_\_\_ motivations for Service and Sacrifice?

- We are not being '\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_'.  
The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything...**Acts 17:24-25**
  - God doesn't need our \_\_\_\_\_, we need God's \_\_\_\_\_.

- We are not ' \_\_\_\_\_ God \_\_\_\_\_ '.
- "It would honor God's grace and value more if we dropped the notion of paying Him back at all. We are not involved in a trade or a purchase. We have received a gift." – **John Piper, *Desiring God***

- We are not working for the ' \_\_\_\_\_ ' of \_\_\_\_\_ .

Peter said to him, "We have left everything to follow you!".  
 "I tell you the truth," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age (homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—and with them, persecutions) and in the age to come, eternal life. **Mark 10:28-30**

- Christ will \_\_\_\_\_ whatever we sacrifice in His name, to the point that we will not even be able to call it a sacrifice.

**Life Point:** In God centered service and sacrifice, we are giving up those things that are of \_\_\_\_\_ value to gain what is of \_\_\_\_\_ value.

**"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose"**  
 – Jim Elliot

→ **What is the \_\_\_\_\_ motivation for Service and Sacrifice?**

Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church...**Colossians 1:24 ESV**

- Christ' sacrifice was \_\_\_\_\_ and it is \_\_\_\_\_
- What is \_\_\_\_\_, is that the people of the world need to \_\_\_\_\_ His sacrifice

**Life Point:** Christ sacrificed to \_\_\_\_\_ salvation, we sacrifice to \_\_\_\_\_ salvation. One of the best motivations for service and sacrifice, is to \_\_\_\_\_ the people we encounter a Savior who died for them.

**Will Agape be a place that will:**

**"Expect Great Things From God; \_\_\_\_\_ " ?**

**( William Carey 'the father of modern missions' )**