

TAP

A Commitment to Be Consistent

Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord [always doing your best and doing more than is needed], being continually aware that your labor [even to the point of exhaustion] in the Lord is not futile nor wasted [it is never without purpose].
1 Cor. 15:58 (Amplified)

The Bible declares the Lord's great power and majesty while also revealing His deep mercy and love. He is worthy of wholehearted, passionate commitment and consistency, but He doesn't often get it.

Sometimes we give permission to things, people, situations to interrupt our commitment and consistency. I often wonder what I would do if God allowed other things that caused Him not to be consistent and committed to be a loving, forgiving, caring, and providing God.

*Complete obedience is a choice to follow God regardless of the consequences. This means that we obey the Lord even if others choose a different path or differ. Seeing His will done is more important than our own comfort or personal ambition. We commit the consequences to God and cling to His promises: He will never leave us (**Heb. 13:5**), and He makes good out of every situation (**Rom. 8:28**).*

Notice the word 'commitment' in the title of today's devotion. I'm not writing about obedience that is born of the moment (as in, I choose to follow God in this instance), but about submission as a way of life. Setting restrictions on compliance is so tempting--we want to be able to change our mind when obeying upsets our lifestyle, the result is unclear, or we're just plain scared. But let me ask you this one sobering question: If Jesus is the Lord of your life, what right do you have to limit how and when you'll do His will?

Believers often choose to set their own limits; their own criterion for obeying God. There are times that obedience creates conflict, but obedience is always right. But following God in all things is the surest path to favor and spiritual growth.