

# “Committed To Progress”

Do you really want this? What is the commitment level to see progress in your life/church? What does commitment look like?

## **1. COMMITMENT MEANS YOU PARTICIPATE PERSONALLY (NEHEMIAH 10:1-27)**

**A. No longer anonymous, you are willing to sign up and be part of the team.**

- i. Acts 2:47<sup>47</sup> praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.*
- ii. Ephesians 2:19<sup>19</sup> Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,*

## **2. COMMITMENT MEANS YOU BEHAVE BIBLICALLY (NEHEMIAH 10:28-31)**

**A. We don't just learn the Bible, we follow the Bible.**

- i. Matthew 7:24, 26<sup>24</sup> “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock...<sup>26</sup> “But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand*
- ii. John 14:15<sup>15</sup> “If you love me, you will obey what I command.*
- iii. 1 John 3:23<sup>23</sup> And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment.*

**B. Make sure you interpret it correctly. For example, the difference between old and new covenant.**

- i. Galatians 3:10-13<sup>15</sup> “For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.”<sup>11</sup> But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for “the just shall live by faith.”<sup>12</sup> Yet the law is not of faith, but “the man who does them shall live by them.”<sup>13</sup> Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us*
- ii. Hebrews 8:7-8<sup>8</sup> “For if that first covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second. <sup>8</sup> Because finding fault with them, He says: “Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD,*

*when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah...*

- iii. *2 Timothy 2:15<sup>15</sup> Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

### **3. COMMITMENT MEANS YOU CONTRIBUTE CONSISTENTLY (NEHEMIAH 10:32-39)**

#### **A. “Tithe” (Vs. 37, 38) – Make it part of your commitment this year**

- i. “Make all you can, save all you can, give all you can.” — John Wesley
- ii. “I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare.” - C. S. Lewis

#### **B. “Firstfruits” (35, 37) – God gets the first and the best even when you’re not sure about the remainder of the crops.**

- i. *2 Corinthians 8:3,7 For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, ...But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also.*

#### **C. “The house of God” (Every verse from 32-39) – Giving should be prioritized to the local Church you are a part of.**

- i. “As base a thing as money often is, yet it can be transmuted into everlasting treasure. It can be converted into food for the hungry and clothing for the poor. It can keep a missionary actively winning lost men to the light of the gospel and thus transmute itself into heavenly values. Any temporal possession can be turned into everlasting wealth. Whatever is given to Christ is immediately touched with immortality.” — A.W. Tozer