

Relationship Skill #1: Commitment to a Common Cause (May 14, 2026)

Any venture we undertake requires us to “count the cost.” Jesus said, “For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it.” (Luke 14:28) A very important part of every relationship, project, or mission happens at the start. Before beginning the journey, each member of the team needs to commit to arrive at the destination. Without commitment, it’s unlikely that the team will reach their goal.

Here are some keys to healthy commitment...

1. Each member must be willing to commit to that cause. There cannot be manipulation or compulsion that eliminates the freedom of each member to honestly choose to commit. Without freedom of will, there is no meaningful relationship. And without meaningful relationship, the team will struggle to meet its goals.
2. Each member must be able to do what they are committing to do. If there are personal deficiencies or logistical impossibilities that prevent them from doing what they have committed, the commitment is unreasonable (no matter how badly someone wants to do it).
3. Each person must care about and believe in the common cause enough to sacrifice something of themselves to see the team meet its objective. Working with other people requires sacrifice that all team members must be willing to make.

Commitment is an often overlooked aspect of relationship that will lead to future breakdowns.

When the common cause is no longer worth the personal sacrifice, the relationship ends. Please consider your commitments before making them to avoid the pain and loss of failing them.