

NOTES: Allegiance to Christ vs. Worldly Things
Compelled Church | August 24, 2025 | Cole Murphy

“So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.” (Luke 5:11)

We can find ourselves prioritizing some things over Christ:

- Politics
- Family
- Finances
- Success/Status
- Human Approval/Recognition

Scriptural Examples of Worldly Loyalties

- Politics, Prejudice
 - *“The word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai: ²“Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.”³ But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the LORD.” (Jonah 1:1-3, NIV)*
- Church Leadership
 - *“⁴For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not mere human beings? ⁵What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task.” (1 Corinthians 3:4-5, NIV)*
- Power, Finances, Success – The Rich Young Ruler
 - ¹⁷As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁸“Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. ¹⁹You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.’^[a]” ²⁰“Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.” ²¹Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” ²²At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth. (Mark 10:17-22, NIV)

Scriptural Examples of Allegiance to Christ

- Jesus calls Peter, James, and John to follow Him

- *“⁹For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, ¹⁰and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon’s partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, “Don’t be afraid; from now on you will fish for people.” ¹¹So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.” (Luke 5:9-11, NIV)*
- Peter James and John risked and sacrificed finances, comfort, work, identity, and social norms to follow Christ.
- Paul’s Suffering and Suffering as the Mark of Allegiance to Christ
 - *“²⁴Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. ²⁵Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, ²⁶I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. ²⁷I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. ²⁸Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches.” (2 Corinthians 11:24-28, NIV)*

What about now?

- What would these categories look like in your life if they were completely surrendered to Jesus?
 - Politics: *Using passion and calling to influence people to justice and holiness*
 - Finances: *Generosity, surrendering control, tithe, and charity*
 - Human Approval: *Work hard and acknowledge that value comes from the fact that we are made in the image of God and that Jesus died and rose from the dead for us.*
- What is something you may be more allegiant to than Christ?
 - With the help of the Holy Spirit, evaluate where your loyalties or priorities are misguided.

Being Allegiant to Christ means complete loyalty to His cause and His glory.

It means the willingness to sacrifice all that He asks of you, contrary to the Rich Young Ruler.

It means willingness to suffer for Christ and His cause.