



If we're ever going to allow God to restore our lives we have to recognize the **need** in our lives.

Investigate my life, O God, find out everything about me; Cross-examine and test me, get a clear picture of what I'm about; See for yourself whether I've done anything wrong— then guide me on the road to eternal life. Psalm 139:23-24 (MSG)

A restored life is an **examined** life.

**res-to-ra-tion:** the action of returning something to a former condition. Original condition.

...we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 2 Corinthians 4:16 (NIV)

The decision to **keep** an area our lives from God is reversed with a decision to **give** our lives completely to God.

**Why my Commitment to God is important:**

- We only **value** what we are committed to.

What we value reveals the **priorities** of our heart.

No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. Matthew 6:24 (NET)

**A few definitions of commitment:**

- Commitment means the absence of a **divided loyalty**.
- Commitment means **staying loyal** to what you said you were going to do long after the **mood** you said it in left you.
- Commitment means doing whatever it takes to see my **promise** through.

Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him... Job 13:5 (KJV)

Commitment tells feelings to "**fall in line**"; my decision has been made.

...But as for me and my family, we will serve the LORD. Joshua 24:15 (NLT)

**Reasons we struggle with commitment:**

- We're not fully **convinced** about God.

...be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do. James 1:6-8 (NLT)

We increase our commitment when we take steps of **faith**.

- We're not fully **secure** in God.

"If any of you are embarrassed over me and the way I'm leading you when you get around your fickle and unfocused friends, know that you'll be an even greater embarrassment to the Son of Man when he arrives in all the splendor of God, his Father, with an army of the holy angels." Mark 8:38 (MSG)

We increase our commitment when we prioritize **pleasing God**.

- We're not fully **surrendered** to God.

..."If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. Matthew 16:25 (NLT)

We increase our commitment when we **fully surrender** to God.

- We're not fully **prepared**.

Is there anyone here who, planning to build a new house, doesn't first sit down and figure the cost so you'll know if you can complete it? If you only get the foundation laid and then run out of money, you're going to look pretty foolish. Everyone passing by will poke fun at you: 'He started something he couldn't finish.' ...can you imagine a king going into battle against another king without first deciding whether it is possible with his ten thousand troops to face the twenty thousand troops of the other? And if he decides he can't, won't he send an emissary and work out a truce? Luke 14:28-32 (MSG)

My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20 (NLT)

We increase our commitment when we **die to ourselves**.

**Jesus Understands:**

- No one can follow Jesus, and face the demands in life, the distractions in life, the difficulties of life with **divided loyalty**.

One day when large groups of people were walking along with him, Jesus turned and told them, "Anyone who comes to me but refuses to let go of father, mother, spouse, children, brothers, sisters—yes, even one's own self!—can't be my disciple. Anyone who won't shoulder his own cross and follow behind me can't be my disciple.... "Simply put, if you're not willing to take what is dearest to you, whether plans or people, and kiss it good-bye, you can't be my disciple. Luke 14:25-27, 33 (MSG)

**Establish your commitment:**

Establish the **priority** of your commitment .

Establish the **plan** for your commitment

Establish the **purpose** of your commitment.

"For to me to live is Christ..." Philippians 1:21



**TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE  
IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.**

**Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:**

*These questions also work well for personal time with God.*

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- Why do we need a restored commitment to God? In your own words what does that mean?
- Talk about the different definitions of commitment. Which of these is most difficult to you?
- How do steps of faith increase our commitment? Are there any steps you need to take?
- How does pleasing God increase our commitment?
- How does being fully surrendered to God increase our commitment? In your opinion, which scripture on this sheet gives the best definition of what it means to be fully surrendered to God?
- What does it mean to die to ourselves? How often did Jesus say we are to do this? What does dying to ourselves mean to you?
- How does a divided loyalty prevent us from living a committed life?
- Read Luke 14:25-27,33. What is Jesus saying to us about committing our lives to Jesus?

For more Talks, visit us at:  
**fresnoquest.com**

Get connected! Try out a Connection Group.



Information available in the courtyard.



Today's Talk..



RESTORED COMMITMENT