

Commitment

by Wayne Goff



*What the local church needs more of today is **commitment** from all of its members.*

Commitment is the thing on which relationships in life are built. Without commitment in marriage, husbands and wives cannot have a secure relationship. Without commitment at work, the employer would never be sure of his work force; the employee would never be sure of his job. Without commitment, schools would have no boards, no principals, no teachers, and no students. Without commitment, the church would flounder — never sure of its ability, never sure of its power for good, never certain if it can finish the task to which it has set itself.

A Committed Church

How can we have a committed church? By teaching every member to be committed to the Lord and to the local church. *“And this they did, not as we had hoped, but first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us by the will of God” (2 Corinthians 8:5).* With these words, the Lord was teaching the saints at Corinth about commitment. The Macedonians were committed Christians; the Corinthians could be committed too.

But committed to do what? *“But as you abound in everything — in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us — see that you abound in this grace also.” (2 Corinthians 8:7).* **In short, the church needs its members to be committed to any and every Scriptural endeavor.** If the church conducts a gospel meeting, then every member should commit himself or herself to attend, to invite others, and to pray for its success. If the church is teaching its members how to do personal work, then every member should commit to learning how to do it. Commitment comes in every aspect of the church — Scriptural worship (**John 4:24**), Scriptural work (**Ephesians 4:16**), and Scriptural organization (**Philippians 1:1**).

What if everyone is not committed? *“For I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened; but by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may supply their lack, that their abundance also may supply your lack — that there may be equality. As it is written, ‘He who gathered much had nothing left over, and he who gathered little had no lack’” (2 Corinthians 8:13-15).* The God-ordained plan is that **every member** should be committed to do his or her work. Consequently, no one is over burdened, and none are without work. Those who are stronger should teach the weaker what is their responsibility and how they can discharge it.

Are you a committed Christian? Do you accept personal responsibility for yourself? Do you look for opportunities to serve the Lord and your brethren?

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