

Provoke Your Thinking

Thanks Brother James Gardin for leading a great discussion in our 16FEB study on *Finding Your Purpose in Commitment*. I've captured some of the FB comments that deserve further attention.

21:14

Sometimes I just don't want to. Because I want to do it my way.

31:08

What do you mean when you say totally committed to the Lord?

34:43

The only reason I say that is can one be totally committed and still sin? Cuz, as long as you are in this body you are gonna sin?

36:10

Yes you can be. We continue to grow. It's not about perfection.

40:31

See you are confusing me when a person is totally committed, isn't that like saying that he/she would have to have A total mindset of what Jesus wants at that Tyme!

45:55

I think that old adage where it says you will be so heavenly minded that you might become no earthly good!!! Plz answer my questions, when you get a chance,

53:43

Do we really possess God or does God possess us?

Each of these comments offers us opportunity to enhances our discussion on a true *Commitment to an intimate relationship with God*. God has given us a real live demonstration of Commitment in marriage relationships. At some point in time, we've all experienced a marriage relationship at some level, and can learn from our experience with this concept of COMMITMENT. It doesn't matter whether your relationship is maturing or has disintegrated (before or after the ceremony); beyond the sexual acts you enjoy, you can still gleam from a marriage relationship the level of commitment God desires. *"It's who you are and the way you live that count before God. Your worship must engage your spirit in the pursuit of truth. That's the kind of people the Father is out looking for: those who are simply and honestly themselves before Him in their worship. God is sheer being itself—Spirit. Those who*

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worship Him must do it out of their very being, their spirits, their true selves, in adoration.” *JHN 4:23-24*. This is a relationship much greater than the question of “who possesses whom”, because in this love relationship each party seeks and sacrifices for betterment of the other while recognizing and appreciating each other’s individual uniqueness. Although God has courted you since before time, making provisions for you as a demonstration of HIS great love *EPH 1*, HE will not usurp HIS Word giving you the intellect to live and the power to love: “*Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it*” *GEN 1:28*; nor will HE renege in giving you the intellectual ability to choose your love *GEN 2:17*. As far as HIS COMMITMENT then, God created you with a unique personality and entrusted you with a freedom to love HIM back. HIS love does not regard your good or bad qualities, HE simply loves you and has endowed you with the freedom to choose who you love. It is still *your choice* to spend the time with HIM to understand HIS loves for you and how you compliment HIM. When people around you see your relationship with God, their reaction should be the same reaction you have when you see the interaction between a married couple who is really in love. The essence of love and commitment to God is not to impress onlookers that *you know of God* (so heavenly bound that you are no earthly good), but that you have *eyes only for God and you know how to please Him*. You please Him when your conduct is reflective of His image.