

FAITH BASED DEVOTION

DEVOTION: to give one's time, focus one's effort, commit ones-self, entirely for, on, or to a certain matter

I WANT YOU TO THINK OF A PERSON WHO IS DEVOTED TO ANOTHER PERSON OR TO A CAUSE.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THAT PERSON'S DEVOTION?

Let's read from the book of Mark 12:30-31 about what Jesus says:

Mark 12:30-31 *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. ¹⁰ ³¹The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. ¹⁴ There is no commandment greater than these."*

Jesus was very simple about what each one of us should be devoted too, LOVING GOD and LOVING others.

DEVOTION TO LOVING GOD

Mark 12:30 *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.*

Devotion is love with ALL YOUR heart, soul, mind, and strength

David says to his son Solomon

1 Chronicles 28:9 *"And you, my son Solomon, acknowledge the God of your father, and serve him with wholehearted devotion and with a willing mind, for the LORD searches every heart and understands every motive behind the thoughts. If you seek him, he will be found by you; but if you forsake him, he will reject you forever.*

ACKNOWLEDGE GOD – *What stops you from acknowledging God?*

Serve GOD with WHOLEHEARTED DEVOTION – *What stops you from having wholehearted devotion?*

Serve GOD with a WILLING MIND – *What stops you from having a willing mind?*

David reminds Solomon to seek God and God will find him.

Do you actively seek God?

David also reminds him there are consequences to our rejection of God.

Do you realize the consequence of forsaking God?

We are called to be devoted in love to him and to devote our love to loving others.

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DEVOTION TO LOVING OTHERS

Mark 12:31 *The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. ¹⁰There is no commandment greater than these.'*

Devotion is love others the way you want to be loved

What does this look like?

Romans 12:9-12 *⁹Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰Be **devoted to one another in brotherly love**. Honor one another above yourselves. ¹¹Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. ¹²Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ¹³Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.*

Paul tells the Roman Christians about the devotion they should have with other Christians. As Christians we are called to be devoted to each other in **LOVE**.

Choose one of the following to share from:

In what ways can you show sincere love?

In what ways can you honor others with love?

In what ways can you serve God and others with love?

In what ways can you show the fruits of Spirit with love?

In what ways can you practice hospitality with love?

We are reminded of the great example of the young Christians in Achaia.

1 Corinthians 16:15-18 *¹⁵You know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have **devoted themselves to the service of the saints**. I urge you, brothers, ¹⁶to submit to such as these and to everyone who joins in the work, and labors at it. ¹⁷I was glad when Stephanas, Fortunatus and Achaicus arrived, because they have supplied what was lacking from you. ¹⁸For they refreshed my spirit and yours also. Such men deserve recognition.*

The young Christians in Achaia devoted themselves to the **SERVICE** of other Christians. When we serve other Christians:

We supply what was lacking

We refresh others

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