

How Do We Stay Zealous for the Lord? What Do I Do When I Lose My Zeal?

Titus 2:11-14

“Zeal requires the belief that in taking this action I am receiving more than I am giving. Zeal is seen in my energy and/or excitement toward something, believing that this has the greatest payoff or value. It is what I want to be identified with. It is also the way that we show the value of something.”

“No one sins out of obligation. We sin because we believe it has a great payoff. In the same way, if we believe that God has infinite value and serving Him has infinite payoff, we will not serve Him out of obligation.” (John Piper)

“For I bear witness that they have a zeal for God but not according to knowledge.” (Romans 10:2)

“Who gave Himself (infinite worth) for us (lesser value) to redeem us from all lawlessness (things we were zealous in doing) and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession (the greatest position) who are zealous for good works (believing these actions are supreme to lawlessness and show my appreciation for what God has done).” (Titus 2:14)

“Sanctification does not need an emotional stimulus in order to obey genuinely. Sin feeds off of emotional stimuli. The Christian acts by faith (Hebrews 11:6) in the worth of Christ and what He has done on our behalf and the eternal reward of living for His glory/according to His Word. Our emotions cannot be trusted. We must act in faith (Romans 4:19-22). Moments of faith may be joined with sensations of happiness, but if they do not, it is not a measure of genuineness. When we walk in faith despite our emotions, it is then that our faith is purest.” (Paul Shirley)

“So as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him (living as if He has infinite value): bearing fruit in every good work (means in showing and experiencing the worth and work of Christ) and increasing in the knowledge of God (means in knowing and experiencing the worth and work of Christ).” (Colossians 1:10)

“For where your treasure is (greatest intellectual value/faith), there your heart (energies, efforts, and emotions) will be also.” (Matthew 6:21)

“When you (assume you will) give to the needy, pray, fast (good works), don’t do them to be seen by men (lesser reward), instead do it in secret to be seen by your Father in heaven (greatest reward).” (Matthew 6:1-24)

- What is supreme or has the better payoff? Man’s praise or God’s praise? Treasure on earth or treasure in heaven? Serving God or serving money?

(continued →)

Worship: What a Friend We Have In Jesus (Various Artists)

O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer (Sovereign Grace Music)

Service Times: Sundays: Revelation Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7;

Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

- Anxiety is a means that is used to distract us from Biblical pursuing and valuing. How do we battle anxiety?
 - I believe and act on that life is more than physical or worldly realities (Matthew 6:25).
 - I believe that God is the one who defines the value of all things, from Himself to me and everything in between (Matthew 6:26).
 - I believe that worry, anxiety, fear, and stress about worldly loss or gain add nothing to the quality or quantity of my life (Matthew 6:27).
 - I believe that God knows all of my needs and will provide all of my needs, giving me the freedom to pursue knowing His worth and demonstrating His worth by walking according to His Word (Matthew 6:32-34).

- I believe in the principle of sowing and reaping. I believe this is the means in which the worth of God is demonstrated in my life.

“And let us not grow weary (show the worth of Christ) of doing good (show the worth of Christ), for in due season (belief in the reliability of God’s Word) we will reap (belief in the reliability of God’s Word) if we do not give up (show the worth and reliability of Christ and His Word). So then, as we have opportunity (to show Christ’s worth and reliability), let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith (reminding them of the worth and reliability of Christ).”
 (Galatians 6:9-10)

“Therefore (because of Christ giving us victory over sin, death, and Hell)....be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord (show your value of Christ and His mission) knowing (the reliability of God’s Word) that in the Lord your labor is not in vain (has infinite worth).”
 (1 Corinthians 15:58)