

Friday 21 May, 2010
Sermon – Overcoming a Lack of Commitment

SERMON – put up commitment picture

How Committed Are You To The Things of God?

- To Spending Time with Him Daily
- To Waiting For His Voice
- To Seeking Him for His will
- To Sharing the gospel with the Unsaved.
- This is **NOT** a condemnation guilt trip talk – but a liberation talk.

The Truth is

- Most of Us are NOT that committed.
- WHY?

John Batley's & My Talk Last Week

- We Googled the Opposite of Commitment
- WordHippo.com says that the opposite of commitment is Indifference

So What is the Cure for Indifference

- How do you overcome that?
- Challenging Question isn't it?

The Cure for Indifference is Comprehension – Googled This Too

- Understanding
- Understanding leads to an awareness of Importance
- This leads to concern
- Concern leads to Commitment

Spiritually Speaking

- What is needed is understanding
- Of What??

Illustration of Indifference – taken from the Internet

During the second month of nursing school, a professor gave his class a pop quiz. To the students' surprise, most of the questions on the quiz were quite easy—a rarity for this particular professor.

The last question, though, got the students' attention: *"What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?"*

Surely this was some kind of joke! the students thought. Most had seen the cleaning woman many times, and knew that she was tall, dark-haired, and in her late 50s or early 60s. *But*, the students thought, *how on earth would we know her name?* Every single student handed in a quiz paper with the last question left blank.

Before class ended, one student asked if the last question would count toward the quiz grade. "Absolutely," said the professor. "In your careers you will meet many people. *All* of them are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do is smile, say hello, and introduce yourself."

The students never forgot this lesson. And, over the course of their studies, many of them developed wonderful friendships with **Dorothy**, the once-nameless cleaning lady.

When Knowing the Cleaning Ladies Name Became Important

- When they “understood” that they need to know this
- Then they cared.

Indifference means “no difference.”

- So basically – if you don’t do anything it doesn’t make a difference
- In other words, not taking action doesn’t matter
- But understanding changes how you see it
- You soon realise that it does matter
- Then you are free to do something

On Boxing Day 2004 a Tsunami Swept the Whole Indian Ocean

- Show Youtube video – courtesy of 747takemeawa747
- Australians gave record donations to Indonesia
- The Australia government gave 1 Billion dollars away
- WHY?
- Because they had a concern for a situation
- They understood there was a need and it moved them to action

However, the Day before

- There was huge poverty in Asia
- Millions of people dying from malnutrition
- Millions of people were homeless
- Millions of orphans
- And in Australia millions of people were indifferent
- The tsunami provided understanding of a need.

That’s Why I Want to Take You All on a Mission Trip

- It will provide understanding to care
- Understanding will give you commitment

The good News is

- Understanding is a grace of the Lord Jesus
- Isaiah 11 says – Jesus had the grace of understanding
- Today we are going to pray for it
- We can never be God’s people until we have understanding.