

# SERMON OUTLINE

3745 Market St. NE, Salem, OR 97301

Sunday Morning 10/28/07

## *“Learning Commitment”*

### **I. Topic to be Discussed**

- A. Commitment is a vital ingredient for growth.
- B. All growth comes at a price and if we are not committed to the goal then we will not pay the price necessary to achieve it.

### **II. Learning Commitment**

#### **A. What Is the Commitment God Demands?**

- 1. the trait of sincere and steadfast fixity of purpose: Phil 3:12-14
- 2. the act of binding yourself (intellectually or emotionally) to a course of action: I Corinthians 15:58
- 3. God's definition of commitment: Luke 14:25-35
  - a. NOT half-heartedly following Jesus (the crowd)
  - b. NOT doing more than others (the “disciples”)
  - c. NOT “making an effort” (the undecided)
  - d. Understanding the goal
  - e. Making a choice (priorities)
  - f. Taking it to completion
- 4. Why is commitment important? (Philippians 3:12-16)
  - a. The rains/floods will come - price to pay always!
  - b. It keeps you on course
  - c. Strength (marriages, jobs, education, physically) comes when I work through the tough times (tower completed)

#### **B. How Am I Doing in My Commitment to God?**

- 1. To what does God want me to commit?
  - a. His goal: A personal dedication to Him from the heart
  - b. His goal: Honoring Him in my life
  - c. His goal: Loving and serving my brethren
  - d. His goal: Reaching out to the lost
- 2. What do I love? Where is my treasure (heart)? Lk 14:26
- 3. For what am I willing to suffer? Lk 14:27
- 4. Am I holding on to both worlds? Made a choice? Lk 14:33

#### **C. What Can I Do to Better Commit to God?**

- 1. See and love the goal (it is the way to true life) - valuable
- 2. Understand the sacrifice required to reach your goal
- 3. Hold yourself to your commitment (accountability)
- 4. Provide no “if” clauses (a way out of my commitment)

### **III. Won't You Make a Commitment to God Today?**