

***Some Relevant Quotes & Biblical References About Being Devoted,
Dedicated, & Diligent in Our Commitment to Christ***

—“If you do not plan to live the Christian life totally committed to knowing your God and to walking in obedience to Him, then don't begin, for this is what Christianity is all about. It is a change of citizenship, a change of governments, a change of allegiance. If you have no intention of letting Christ rule your life, then forget Christianity; it is not for you.” —**Kay Arthur**

—“More than once Jesus deliberately addressed certain issues that quickly diminished the number of onlookers. It was commitment that thinned the ranks.” —**Chuck Swindoll**

—“God wants worshipers before workers; indeed the only acceptable workers are those who have learned the lost art of worship.” —**A. W. Tozer**

—“When it comes to God's commands, the issue is not clarity; it's commitment.” —**Woodrow Kroll**

—“Christlikeness is the substance of spiritual dedication.” —**John MacArthur**

—“The Christian life is not adding Jesus to one's own way of life but renouncing that personal way of life for His and being willing to pay whatever cost that may require.” —**John MacArthur**

—“Many Christians *stall out* in the faith when the call to total commitment is received or viewed as something too high or too hard to acquire; or they have never been taught that total commitment is Christ's demand for all His followers.” —**Chip Ingram**

—“To worship in spirit is to draw near to God with an undivided heart.” —**Erwin Lutzer**

—“I can safely say, on the authority of all that is revealed in the Word of God, that any man or woman on this earth who is bored and turned off by worship is not ready for heaven.” —**A. W. Tozer**

—“Corporate worship is a regular gracious reminder that it's not about you. You've been born into a life that is a celebration of another.” —**Paul David Tripp**

— Questions for Personal Reflection & Discussion **—**

—**1}** Last week we noted that Romans 11:33–36 puts an exclamation mark (!) on what was presented in Romans 1–11. As we begin our study of Romans 12, the first word is **therefore!** and that makes the exclamation mark (!) even more apparent. This is the 4th **therefore** in Romans and it seems as if each one plays an important role in helping us see the truths that need to be emphasized. Please take a closer look at Romans 3:20, 5:1, 8:1, & 12:1. How does Paul's use of **therefore** help us better understand the flow of thought and the theological truths presented throughout Romans?

—**2}** Why are our motives for obeying God important? What should motivate our desire to worship and honor God? What can happen when our motives are wrong or misguided?

—**3}** If possible, discuss this with someone: *Is a person who claims to be saved but who won't give himself totally to God genuinely saved?* What Scriptural passages might assist in making this determination? Please keep in mind, we should be cautious about judging others, but we do need to be discerning for the sake of encouraging each other.

—**4}** Are certain activities *off limits* to someone who has given himself totally to God? What guidelines should apply as a help to us?

—**5}** If you could change just one thing about your relationship with the Lord, what would it be? How can you begin to change it?

—**6}** Romans 12 appears to be written to people who have trusted Christ as Lord & Savior. In other words, the exhortation in verse 1 is intended to be an encouragement toward increased spiritual growth and maturity. Why is consistent spiritual growth beneficial? What risks might be involved when we become stagnant? How would you define commitment with regard to trusting Christ?