

Some Relevant Quotes & Biblical References About Being Completely Committed in Our Devotion to Following Christ

—Psalm 1:1–3

1 Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked,
Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!

2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord,
And in His law he meditates day and night.

3 He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water,
Which yields its fruit in its season And its leaf does not wither;
And in whatever he does, he prospers.

—“When our minds are under the jurisdiction of the Spirit of God and the Word of God, then things will inevitably follow as God intends.”

—Alistair Begg

—“There are those today that say we must do as others do, that we must conform to the world [to win it], that we must swim with the tide, that we must move with the crowd. But the true believer should say, ‘No!’”

—Billy Graham

—“The inward transformation of our minds that comes from the work of the Holy Spirit is the only effective protection against temptation of the popular sinful trends that surround us. What our minds take in from what we hear, see, and do has a huge influence on our actions.”

—GAD

—“But God has not called us to be like those around us. He has called us to be like Himself. Holiness is nothing less than conformity to the character of God.”

—Jerry Bridges

—“Resolution One: I will live for God. Resolution Two: If no one else does, I still will.”

—Jonathan Edwards

—“Unfortunately, most Christians do not understand the battle they are fighting, the enemy that they face, or the means God has provided to overcome the temptations and deception of this present world system.”

—Chip Ingram

—“If there’s one single reason why good people turn evil, it’s because they fail to recognize God’s ownership over their kingdom, their vocation, their resources, their abilities, and above all, their lives.”

—Erwin Lutzer

—“The opposite of courage in our culture isn't cowardice, its conformity.”

—anonymous

—“Keep in mind that whenever sin is viewed superficially, it is dealt with superficially.”

—Erwin Lutzer

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

—1} Last week we placed a strong emphasis on being completely committed to following Christ. The main focus pointed to the idea that we should be ***ALL IN, ALL THE TIME*** when it comes to our desire and dedication to following the Lord. After having a few days for this to “sink in,” what personal thoughts do you have about why our level of commitment is important?

—2} If you could change just one thing about your relationship with the Lord, what would it be? How would you begin to change it? How much of this change would be motivated by the Holy Spirit?

—3} How can a faithful follower know whether a popular activity or a habit is conformity with our society or simply something that’s culturally and spiritually neutral? When is it acceptable to fit in with “the crowd” and when is it a potential problem?

—4} Wanting to belong and fit in is a natural and normal desire. How can we discern/evaluate whether this is a good thing or something that would require a certain level of caution? How should we pray about decisions like this?

—5} What guidelines or biblical principles can we apply to determine whether a matter is *worldly* or *godly*? What criteria should we use to determine whether a matter that isn’t specifically mentioned in the Bible is acceptable or appropriate?

—6} How would you describe the moral and spiritual condition of our culture? How important is it for us to evaluate the impact our society has on our views and values? What are some things that cause you to be concerned about how our society influences the ministry of the Church? Do you believe that spiritual and moral apathy is a problem that might be affecting the effectiveness of ministry efforts?