

Devotion (Merriam-Webster)

noun

de·vo·tion [di-'vō-shən](#)

dē-

[Synonyms of devotion](#)

1

a

: religious [fervor](#) : **PIETY**

b

: an act of prayer or private worship

—usually used in plural

during his morning *devotions*

c

: a religious exercise or practice other than the regular corporate
(see [CORPORATE_sense 2](#)) worship of a congregation

2

a

: the act of dedicating something to a cause, enterprise, or activity : the act
of [devoting](#)

the *devotion* of a great deal of time and energy

b

: the fact or state of being ardently dedicated and loyal

her *devotion* to the cause

filial *devotion*

Matthew 5:8
English Standard Version

⁸ "Blessed are the **pure in heart**, for they shall **see God**.

Matthew 6:19-24
English Standard Version
Lay Up Treasures in Heaven

¹⁹ "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust^(a) destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves **treasures in heaven**, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

²² "**The eye is the lamp of the body.** So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, ²³ but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

²⁴ "**No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other.** You cannot serve God and money.^(b)

Matthew 16:13-17
English Standard Version
Peter Confesses Jesus as the Christ

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! **For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.**

Acts 17:22-31

English Standard Version

Paul Addresses the Areopagus

²² So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man,^[a] ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶ And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷ **that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us,** ²⁸ for

"'In him we live and move and have our being';^[b]

as even some of your own poets have said,

"'For we are indeed his offspring.'^[c]

²⁹ Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰ **The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,** ³¹ **because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."**

James 4:7-10

English Standard Version

⁷ **Submit yourselves therefore to God.** Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ **Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands,** you sinners, and **purify your hearts,** you double-minded. ⁹ Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ **Humble yourselves before the Lord,** and he will exalt you.

Love driven Devotion

Introduction:

Today, the father has led me to speak on what is missing in the world today. As I prayed, I asked the Holy Spirit to speak to me specifically about what has led the world into the state that it is in. It is the continuing theme which has guided most of the messages that I have delivered recently. When our father keeps saying the same thing over and over, we need to listen! As I have gone deeper into scripture, I have learned that One of the overarching messages that is a priority to God, comes from his commandments. “Thou shall have no other gods before me”. We were created for relationship and worship! I initially thought that what was missing was devotion to Yahweh, but what he has shown me is not that devotion is missing from the hearts of men and women, but that it is perpetually misplaced. Because we were created to worship, we all devote ourselves to something or someone. And those who consider themselves to be devoted to Christ Jesus must be careful and test their motivations by the fruit that they produce in their lives and in the lives of those around them and compare it to His word. So, let's go deeper into what God expects from his devoted children.

Devotion is worship: Stop, be still and KNOW!

1. Knowing God is Loving Him.
 - Meeting Him by His word / initial faith for Salvation (total surrender).
 - o Salvation is initial surrender and Lordship is daily surrender.
 - o **Colossians 2:6-7 – “Alive in Christ**
⁶Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.
 - Knowing Him by His Word / deeper relationship
 - o A realization of His love.
 - o We know because we have seen, experienced!
 - o We seek to experience him daily, but we persevere by trusting his word alone!
 - **John 20:29**
“²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”
 - Knowing Him is eternal life. It starts now, not in heaven.
John 17:2-3 –
“²since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”

- For what purposes?
 - To participate in his will on earth.
 - To follow his plan for our individual life.
 - To prioritize bringing heaven to earth (Already / not yet).
 - Being his hands and feet.
 - Exercising faith for his pleasure, his manifestations (heaven on earth), resulting in our blessings in the process.
 - Not for our personal gain!

What is the result of Devotion?

1. We will naturally only devote ourselves to things that we love.
 - Devotion is submission, obedience and love.
 - Repentance is the deliverance from sin, which makes room for more of God.
 - Seeking first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness.
 - Spiritual vision and intent results in physical manifestation.
 - All things in this physical world are directed and controlled and were created in the spiritual.
 - Gratitude is the result of knowing him. It is a realization of the atonement.
 - Being ungrateful creates distance between US and God.
 - We move away from his presence; he never moves away from us.
 - It is the same for the world as for the individual.
 - Our level of gratitude is equivalent to our belief.
 - Gratitude births Thanksgiving.
 - Thanksgiving is worship and he inhabits the praises of his people.
 - We were made for his pleasure-worship, relationship, and active faith.
 - Faith is the only thing that pleases him, and this should be evident by our love for him and for the world.
 - To cultivate our individual love for him is the key to bringing the Kingdom to the world.

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