Even When You Don't Want To

Tony Mauck · 1 Corinthians 9:19–27

INTRODUCTION

- Thus, it would be healthy, would it not, to do something every day that we don't want to do. Just for the exercise of having done it.
- So today, if there's some unpleasant little duty that could easily be procrastinated, do it just because you don't want to. Take that little opportunity to put the flesh in its place.
- Teach your body to take orders from your spirit.

1 Easy Religion: A 21st Century Spiritual Malady

- Easy religion. Just a little bit. Just give me a little bit.
- Life in the 21st century is demanding. It's difficult. Something's got to give. Where can I free up some time? Less devotion to my faith.
- The painful sacrifice is sometimes exactly the things that we need for our heart.
- No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.
- One thing I absolutely know about these verses is that Jesus is calling us to sacrifice.
- I need association with the Lord and with his people, a selfless exalting of the Lord on a frequent basis more than I need anything else.

2 Self-Control When Confronted With Temptation

Romans 8:6; Romans 8:13–14; Galatians 5:22–23

- Young people, if we're going to defeat temptation, we've got to learn the art of self-discipline and self-control.
- The mind set on the flesh is death. But the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.
- If by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.
- What he's doing is instructing us how to defeat the flesh.
- He is instructing us so that we will implement his work in our lives. His product, his fruit. Self control.
- It's going to help us to be victorious over the temptation and the appeals that the devil is continually making to our flesh.

3 Be Strong

1 Corinthians 16:13; Ephesians 6:10; 2 Timothy 2:1

- Be on the alert. Stand firm in the faith. Act like men. Be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.
- Finally be strong in the Lord. In the strength of his might. Are you a strong Christian?
- He's not giving you strength without you doing something. He's telling you be strong.

- Be strong is sometimes evidenced in doing things you don’t want to do.
- I flex my spiritual muscle. I overcame that weak flesh, and I developed spiritual strength. And I do that because there are other people counting on me.
- The Lord does notice. He is not unjust to forget our work and labor of love that we have shown in ministering to the saints.

THE CHALLENGE

Have you embraced such a life? Have you made the decision, regardless of the cost, regardless of sometimes having to do things you really don’t want to do?

MY NOTES