Necessary Motivations – part 2

Tony Mauck · 2 Corinthians 5:14–15

INTRODUCTION

- Paul says the love of Christ controls us, and the result of that force in our lives.
- Motivations are things that meet needs as we perceive them or accomplish goals that we have for ourselves.
- The most effective evangelism, which results from our zeal, actually is a natural flow that emanates from fellowship with God.

1 God Our Creator Is a Motivating Force

Genesis 1:1–3; Romans 1:18–20; 2 Peter 3:8–9

- God has all power. And so if we want motivation, let's go to the one who's got the power to keep us motivated.
- From a vacuum of nothing, God created everything we see.
- God's eternal power and divine nature are clearly perceived.
- Your motivating fact should be that God wants you in heaven with him.

2 Grace and Savior

- The grace of God through the blood of Jesus Christ is one of the greatest blessings God has given us that should motivate each one of us.
- For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves it is the gift of God, not of the works, lest anyone should boast.
- We do have God's grace through the blood of Jesus Christ.

3 Work for Something That Does Have Lasting Value

2 Peter 3:10; Isaiah 55:1–2; 2 Corinthians 5:9–11

- He spent his whole life for something that he couldn't keep.
- The message of the gospel is that we can work for something that does have lasting value.
- For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body according to what he has done, whether good or bad.
- Let's make it our aim, as Paul said, to be well pleasing to him.

4 A Motivation to Have Joy and Peace

Philippians 4:4–7; 1 Peter 4:12–19; 1 Peter 2:23

- To the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of his glory, you may rejoice with exaltation.

- So Jesus Himself got through what he had to go through because he looked forward to the joy that awaited him.
- When we're undergoing our trials, we have to trust that God will do the right thing.
- Then we can have the joy of not having our joy or our peace be dictated by life circumstances.

5 Gifts According to the Grace Given to Us

Romans 12:6–8; Romans 12:9–10; 1 Peter 4:10

- Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them.
- We may have these things, but if we don't use them, they're of no value.
- Paul tells us there are many manifestations of God's grace, and we've all got something to use to build one another up.
- As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

6 Meditate on Our Eternal Hope and Home

James 4:14; Luke 9:62

- But they can no longer make any more decisions to affect their outcome.
- We need to meditate on our eternal hope and home. We need to think about the future because we'll spend the rest of our time there.
- For what is your life? It's even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.
- Never lose sight of the end game of this life. Talk about it continuously with your children.

THE CHALLENGE

And so there is your challenge. Be watchful. Keep those motivations near you and near your heart.

MY NOTES