

Meeting With Jesus
4. (A Pattern for Presenting Ourselves)

Sunday 14 February 2010

Going Deeper

The following questions are intended to help you consider more deeply and carefully the things that we heard on Sunday. They are intended to both help you consider what was said and also to help you round out your understanding of them. They are for your use – you do not have to answer all or any of them.

Remember, that which does not enter your prayer closet (that is, your private time with Him) will not enter your life... There is no answer from God that can ever work without your personal involvement with the God who IS the answer!

- I. **Consider Isaiah 29:13-14; Colossians 3:23-24; Proverbs 16:2; 1 Samuel 16:7; Daniel 6:10**
 - A. Describe what you understand by “give yourself to the Lord”.
 - B. What does it mean to ‘go through the motions’? What does it mean to ‘go through the motions’ when it comes to a church meeting or serving the Lord?
 - C. Does God have a reaction to ‘going through the motions’ or is just practicing what He says enough? What would you say His reaction is?
 - D. Daniel would present Himself to God “three times a day”. He was doing something regularly and deliberately. Does that mean he wasn’t doing it from the heart (i.e. was it just a religious practice)? Can doing something from the heart ever involve discipline/habit or deliberately doing something you may not feel like doing?
 - E. Thinking about church meetings, why would someone just ‘go through the motions’?
 - F. What would be required for you to ‘heartily’ present yourself to the Lord or serve Him?
 - G. What does presenting yourself to Him or serving Him ‘with all your heart’ feel like?

Isaiah 29:13-14 (NASB-U)

Then the Lord said,

"Because this people draw near with their words

And honor Me with their lip service,

But they remove their hearts far from Me,

And their reverence for Me consists of tradition learned *by rote*,

¹⁴Therefore behold, I will once again deal marvelously with this people, wondrously marvelous;

And the wisdom of their wise men will perish,

And the discernment of their discerning men will be concealed."

Col. 3:23-24 (NASB-U)

Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, ²⁴knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.

Proverbs 16:2 (NASB-U)

All the ways of a man are clean in his own sight,

But the LORD weighs the motives.

1 Samuel 16:7 (NASB-U)

But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God *sees* not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

Daniel 6:10 (NASB-U)

Now when Daniel knew that the document was signed, he entered his house (now in his roof chamber he had windows open toward Jerusalem); and he continued kneeling on his knees three times a day, praying and giving thanks before his God, as he had been doing previously.