

d) Take The Tithe Challenge

- Ultimately, our issue with money -- is not an issue with money -- it's an issue of our heart.
- Matthew 6:21 – *“Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.”*

SUMMARY – The Five Fruit Of A Committed Life

- 1. Spiritual Commitment** – I Take Responsibility Daily For My Spiritual Growth
 - 2. Life Satisfaction** – I Practice Contentment In All Areas Of My Life
 - 3. Serving** - I Serve At Least One Hour Each Week In My Church
 - 4. Inviting** – I Invite One Friend A Month To Church With Me
 - 5. Giving** – I Bring The Full Tithe To God Each Week
- Matthew 7:16-17 – *“By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles? Likewise, every good and true tree bears fruit. But a bad tree bears bad fruit.”*

Connection – The Power Of A Committed Life
Part 2 – Connection With My Church

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REVIEW

- 2 Chronicles 16:9 - *“The eyes of the Lord search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him.”*

INTRODUCTION – FIVE FRUIT OF A CONNECTED LIFE

- (1) Spiritual commitment
- (2) Life satisfaction
- (3) Serving
- (4) Inviting
- (5) Giving

FIVE ACTIONS OF A FULLY CONNECTED LIFE

- 1. Spiritual Commitment – I Take Responsibility Daily For My Spiritual Growth**
 - a) Spiritual Babies Require Help
 - b) Spiritual Adults Take Responsibility
 - c) Solution: Choose To Come Close To God
 - James 4:8 – *“Come close to God and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.”*

2. Life Satisfaction – I Practice Contentment In All Areas Of My Life

- a) Discontentment Is A Hindrance To Spiritual Growth
- b) Discontentment Comes From Living In The Past Or The Future
- c) Solution: Practice Contentment
 - Philippians 4:12 – *“I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation. Whether well-fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or want, I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation.”*

3. Serving - I Serve At Least One Hour Each Week In My Church

- a) Not Feeling Connected? An Illustration
- b) Solution: Serving Is A Path To Connection
- c) Jesus’ Disciples Are Servants
 - John 12:26, *“Anyone who wants to be my disciple must follow Me, because my servants must be where I am. And the Father will honor anyone who serves Me.”*

4. Inviting – I Invite One Friend A Month To Church With Me

- a) Inviting People Leads To Opportunities To Share
- b) Pray – Invite – Minister
 - Colossians 4:2-6, *“Devote yourselves to prayer being watchful and thankful. And pray for us too that God may open a door for our message so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders. Make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation always be full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.”*

5. Giving – I Bring The Full Tithe To God Each Week

- a) A Skittle Story
- b) God Has Given Each Of Us ... Skittles!
- c) God’s Directions Concerning Our Skittles
 - Malachi 3:7 – *“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. “Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.”*
 - i. Bring
 - ii. The Whole Tithe
 - iii. Into The Storehouse
 - iv. That There May Be Food In My House
 - v. Test Me In This
 - vi. Pour Out So Much Blessing