

Devoted - Luke 16:10-13

What are we devoted to?

- Do you know people who are described as devoted to certain things? Career, spouse, or sports team?
- It describes someone who sticks with someone or something no matter what. The ups & the downs.
- We've even turned this word into a noun. "I'm going to a devotional at church with friends."
- Maybe we need to revisit exactly what it is that we were supposed to be devoted to as Christians.

What are we devoted to?

- Such was the case in the New Testament. Their devotion to God often needed renewal.
- In Romans 12:1-2 - We are reminded that spiritual renewal is the key to self transformation.
- In Acts 2:42, after a huge response on the Day of Pentecost, we are told what we should be devoted to. If you wanted to word this another way, we could say “Use your energy for these things!”

Christians should be devoted to...

- The apostle's teachings. They were guided by the Holy Spirit (John 16). They were given authority.
- Their teachings covered a variety of topics. We are expected to devote ourselves to them all.
- We may “get tired” of devoting to ourselves to this, but 2 Thess 3:13 reminds us “Don’t do that!”
- It’s easy to give in to spiritual exhaustion. We must continue to pursue. Judges 8:4 - Revelation 2:11

Christians should be devoted to...

- Fellowship. I'm afraid many Christians drastically underestimate the power of fellowship.
- People have to know that we want to be with them & that they are important. 1 Corinthians 12:14
- We are all significant. We are stronger together. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12. We make each other tougher.
- 1 Corinthians 12:31 - Do others know that they are loved? John 15:12 - Be devoted to loving others.

Christians should be devoted to...

- The breaking of bread. I lean toward the idea that this is a reference to the Lord's Supper. Acts 20:7.
- We must be diligent to make sure that the Lord's Supper doesn't become "stale." 1 Corinthians 11.
- Am I devoted to proclaiming Jesus' death, not only weekly in it's formal observance, but also daily as I tell others about the death, burial, & resurrection.
- Jesus' apostles were devoted to the resurrection.

Christians should be devoted to...

- Prayers. It should be abundantly obvious that prayer was important to Christ & the apostles. Luke 6:12. John 17 - "The High Priestly Prayer"
- Is it obvious in your own life? Do you devote time to prayer? Prayer shouldn't be an afterthought.
- I don't know how many times I've heard someone say "I just don't know what to do" - "I don't know how to help" - Just pray. Then... pray some more.

Christians should be devoted to...

- It has been said many times, but we often complicate things that are pretty simple.
- Acts 2:42 plainly shows us where our devotion belongs. “And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teachings and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers”