



Your First Love

By Terry Kountz on October 26, 2021

READING: Revelation 2

“But I have this against you (church in Ephesus), that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.”
Revelation 2:4-5

Serving in the church is a good thing. But what happens when excitement becomes exhaustion, when there is no satisfaction and much less joy? Are we supposed to keep serving no matter what? In Revelation 2, Jesus told the church at Ephesus that He had seen their serving and He was not impressed. They had forgotten why they served. *“You have forgotten your first love,”* Jesus said. Their deeds were empty because the desire behind them was empty.

It is easy to be a slave to Christian service instead of being in love with the One we serve. When we forget the price paid for our salvation and let self-centeredness, even apathy, steal our joy, our work in the church becomes empty and displeasing to Jesus. What we do will never be as important as Whom we serve. If we are too busy doing things for Jesus that we are not spending time with Him, then we are no different from the church at Ephesus. Our relationship with Jesus grows as we read the Bible and talk to Him in prayer. Through time together, we learn who Jesus is and what He wants for us. And as we do, we will find ourselves falling more in love with Him each day and better able to serve with enthusiasm, love and joy.

PRAYER: Lord, help me remember that the reason I serve others is out of my love for You.

TOMORROW'S READING: Revelation 3

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