

How **HOT** Are We?

Colossians 3:15-25

Believers are to serve the Lord with enthusiasm, eagerness, excitement, passion, fervency, wholeheartedness, exuberance and zeal. Yet, how often do we find our service to be lukewarm, complacent, lackadaisical, sluggish, halfhearted and spiritless.



Paul's command is clear: "And whatsoever ye do, do it **heartily**, as to the Lord and not unto men" (*Col. 3:23*). "Heartily" literally means "from the soul." One version renders it, "enthusiastically." We should put our whole soul into it!

Each new day of serving the Lord should be an exciting adventure as we learn what God has in store for us. We are to be "**fervent** in spirit, serving the Lord" (*Rom. 12:11*). This word "fervent" comes from a verb meaning "to boil, seethe." Spiritually, we should be on fire for the Lord, fired up, boiling, hot, zealous, glowing! God wants us to be hot, to have a godly enthusiasm and excitement for the things of the Lord. As one hymn says, "May each soul be rekindled with fire from above!" And another, "Set my soul afire, Lord."

Apollos was such a man: "mighty in the Scriptures" and "**fervent** in the spirit" (*Acts 18:24-25*).

Epaphras had an exuberant prayer life: "always laboring **fervently** for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God" (*Col. 4:12*).

How many of us have ineffective prayer lives due to laziness and neglect? The household of Stephanas had an addiction. They had **addicted themselves** to the ministry (service) of the saints (*1 Cor. 16:15*). What a wonderful habit! "For the love of Christ constraineth us...He died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto Him which died for them and rose again" (*2 Cor. 5:14-15*).

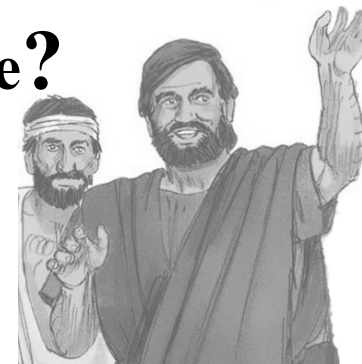
How can we not have a godly and zealous enthusiasm to serve the One who died and rose again for us?

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org

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