

A silhouette of a person standing in a field of tall grass, with their arms raised towards a bright, hazy sky. The person's right arm is extended upwards, with the hand open. The background is a bright, overcast sky with some clouds. The overall mood is one of hope, commitment, or triumph.

Committed
To The
Cause

What is a worthy cause?

- ▶ *“Once a man has made a commitment to a way of life, he puts the greatest strength in the world behind him. It's something we call heart power. Once a man has made this commitment, nothing will stop him short of success.”*

~ Vincent "Vince" Lombardi



What is a worthy cause?

- ▶ “There's a difference between interest and commitment. When you're interested in doing something, you do it only when circumstance permit. When you're committed to something, you accept no excuses, only results.”

~ Art Turock



What is a worthy cause?

- ▶ “Anyone can dabble, but once you've made that commitment, your blood has that particular thing in it, and it's very hard for people to stop you.”

~ Bill Cosby



A Cause Worthy Of Sacrifice

Clara Barton – *Teacher, Nurse, Helper*

- ▶ She was known as the “Lady In Charge” and the “Angel of the Battlefield” during the Civil War.
- ▶ Her father taught her that it was her Christian duty to help.
- ▶ In 1881, she founded the American Chapter of the Red Cross.



A Cause Worthy Of Sacrifice

Corrie ten Boom – *Watchmaker, Friend, Valiant*

- ▶ She and her family hid Jews in their home from the Nazis, and later were arrested.
- ▶ She and her sister Betsie were sent to a Nazi concentration camp. Before Betsie died there, she told her sister that *“There is no pit so deep that He [God] is not deeper still.”*
- ▶ Later she had to face what real Godly forgiveness looked like, when she met one of her captors from the war.



A Cause Worthy Of Sacrifice

Apostle Paul – *Servant of Christ*

- ▶ Paul summed up in 2 Corinthians 11:23–29, how committed he was to the high calling of God in Jesus Christ.



A Cause Worthy Of Sacrifice

Jesus Christ – *Son of the living God*

- ▶ Jesus demonstrated His commitment to the cause of the Kingdom in Romans 5:8; and in doing so, He showed us how worthy we are to Him in Romans 4:25.



A Cause Worthy Of Sacrifice

God the Father – *Sacrificed His Son*

➤ God showed us the cause. It is us. His love for us moved Him to sacrifice.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

~John 3:16



Our Cause – God’s Kingdom

“We Are Kingdom Partners”

- ▶ **Co-Labors:** *As God’s partners, we beg you not to accept this marvelous gift of God’s kindness and then ignore it. (2 Cor. 6:1) NLT*
- ▶ **Ambassadors:** *So we are Christ’s ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, “Come back to God!” (2 Cor. 5:20) NLT*
- ▶ **Set Apart:** *But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. (1 Peter 2:9) NIV*
- ▶ **Ordained:** *For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. (Ephesians 2:10) NKJV*

Our Cause – God's Kingdom

"What We Are Not"

- ▶ **Self-Serving:** *We are not here to build Liberty Church, but to help in building God's Kingdom. Liberty is our staging area. God will add to us as He sees fit. Since our main goal has already been defined for us in Matthew 28:19–20, we must always look beyond these 4 walls with our time, talent, and treasure; as we take an eternal view of God's plan*
- ▶ **Respecter of Persons:** *All who desire to hear God's word, and to seek a greater knowledge of God are welcome. We are to have the eyes of God and see as He sees. Man looks on the outward appearance, God looks upon the heart (1 Samuel 16:7)*

Our Cause – God’s Kingdom

“Membership Is Required”

- ▶ **To be in this cause, you first must be born-again:** *Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” (John 3:3) NKJV*
- ▶ **Membership is by invitation only:** *No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. (John 6:44) ESV*
- ▶ **Membership is free:** *God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God. (Ephesians 2:8) NLT*
- ▶ **Membership has benefits:** *Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we^l rejoice in hope of the glory of God. (Romans 5:1–2) ESV*

Are You Willing?

"The Kingdom Cause Is Now"

³⁵ Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. ³⁶ But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. ³⁷ Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly *is* plentiful, but the laborers *are* few. ³⁸ Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

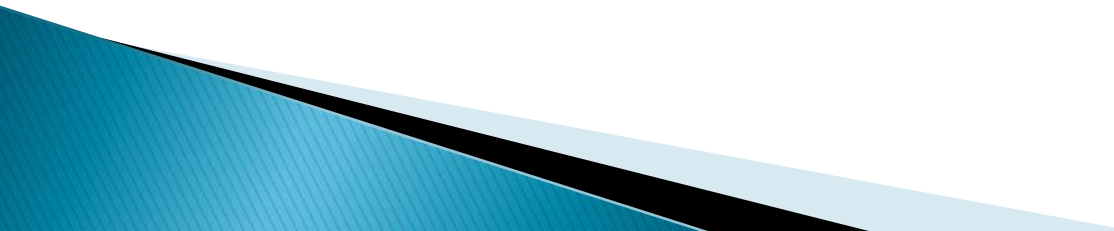
~ Matthew 9

How Far Would You Go For A Worthy Cause?

“A Commitment And A Cup Of Water”

1 Chronicles 11:10–19

The 5 Characteristics Of Someone Committed To A Cause

1. ***Responsibility*** – (v.10) Must understand your part in the cause
 2. ***Availability*** – (v.15) Must position yourself to take part in the cause
 3. ***Sensitivity*** – (v.17) Must be aware of the needs of the cause
 4. ***Reliability*** – (v.18) Must be able to be counted on in the cause
 5. ***Humility*** – (v.19) Must believe the cause is greater than self
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Each believer, through God's grace, is empowered by the Holy Spirit to fulfill this Kingdom work.

God Is Calling Who Will Respond?

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."

~ Isaiah 6:8

