

**Are You Serious?**  
**Matt 25:34, 1 Cor 2:9**  
**By Russ Earl**

Thesis: I want to show the importance of being serious in our love for God.

Intro:

1. How serious are you, why are you here right now?
  - a. Are we only here because others would notice if we were not?
  - b. Why are you here? Are you here because you seriously have a love for God!?
2. This morning and tonight thousands maybe millions gathered to worship God in some form or fashion, but was it serious worship?
3. What about you, are you serious about God? What about every day? What about with your family and friends? What about with your co-workers and neighbors?

I. Are You Serious in your worship to God?

A. In your singing?

1. Do you sing when the time begins, if not then why not? Do we have something against it? (**Psalm 81:1**)
2. When you sing do you think about the words that are being sang? (**Col 3:16**)
3. If you are a song leader, are you leading scriptural songs? (**Acts 17:11- we should search our songs as well, for soundness and truth**)

B. In you're listening to the message?

1. Do we listen to the message being taught, not just here and now but every time? (**Acts 20:7**)
2. Do we listen to the devotionals, to the material in classes and the gospel message in the worship hour? **\*one of the most encouraging things to hear, is the pages of bibles being turned.\***

C. In your giving?

1. What is our attitude about giving as we have prospered? (**1 Cor 16:2, Exodus 35:22**)
2. Our giving is part of our worship to God, it provides for the necessities of worship, it provides for helping those in need, it provides for meetings and for doing the work of the church. We give cause we love the Lord and He is worthy of so much more than just our financial goods.

D. In Your attendance?

1. Are we serious when we make excuses for missing services? Is a game, TV show, or any other event important than meeting with the saints? (**Heb 10:25, do we despise such verses as this, or do we whole-heartedly agree?**)
2. David had a strong opinion about gathering to worship God? (**Psalm 122:1**)

II. Are you serious in your works?

A. Reaching out to the lost and those who have fallen away.

1. We are to seek out the lost and strive to teach them the gospel (**Matt 18:12-13**)
2. What was the goal of the Lord? His goal should be our goal as well (**Lk 19:10**)

B. In your visiting the sick and the shut-ins?

1. It is part of our responsibility to care for the widows and for the elderly. (**Deut 28:50, James 1:27**)

C. Are you serious in the classes you teach or attend?

1. Are we serious in the classes we teach, do we make sure we are speaking truth and not error?
2. Do we listen to the material taught and strive learn all we can.

III. Are you serious about God in your daily life?

A. Being an example to those around you?

1. Are you a Christian all the time, do you set an example (Matt 5:14-16).
2. Can others tell there is something different about you?

B. Resisting temptation and not giving in to peer pressure?

1. Others will know you are different when you flee temptation and do not give in to peer pressure. (James 1:12)
2. People notice when you do not behave like others or have the same desires they do. (Eph 4:17-20 – Christ and the Fathers word has taught us not to act or live as the world does.)

C. Are you serious about your friends and family?

1. Do we show that we are Christians even with our close friends who are not? (Prov 18:24)
2. Our own families many times can be the most difficult to be around. We must remain strong in Christ in there presence as well.
  - a. With your children? With our children we must be serious about teaching them the gospel and the important things Christ has done for us. (Deut 6:6-9)

Conc:

1. God is serious about us!
  - a. He was serious when making a home here for us. (Gen 1:1)
  - b. He was serious with mankind. (Gen 2:1-7)
2. He is serious about our salvation.
  - a. He sent His Son for us. (John 3:16, Isaiah 53:5)
  - b. He provided a way for us (Gal 3:27)

3. Invitation

1. Are you serious enough about God for Him to realize it?
  - a. Would God see your faithfulness in the way you worship Him?
  - b. Would He see your love for Him in your daily lives?
2. If we are serious about God we will be serious in our worship, our work, our daily lives and with God in General, because He is serious about us.
  - a. God was serious when he prepared a place for us (Matt 25:34, 1 Cor 2:9)
  - b. If we are serious about God we will get the big picture. (Ecc 12:13)