*Monday, January 2, 2012*

**Slice of Life**

Jude 1:3-4 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. (4) For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ. (KJV)

Recently while having a discussion with a local pastor it was interesting how he described the congregation as being a bit passive, disinterested in salvation, lacking the desire to seek the deep things of God. This week we will look at what the Word says concerning this issue, and how many times it is brought up throughout.

1 Timothy 6:10-12 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. (11) But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. (12) Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. (KJV)

The word fight means to labor fervently as well as contend. Church, you are in a fight for life, that being your eternal one; and it amazes me at times how many are so lackadaisical when it comes to salvation. A love for anything other than our Lord is allowing the enemy to throw a knockout punch to many who call themselves Christians who end up first round knockouts.

Mark 12:28-30 And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all? (29) And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: (30) And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. (KJV)

When you truly love someone you are willing to do whatever it takes to get that person to love you in return. Maybe if your life seems a bit stale lately and it doesn’t seem like your prayer requests are getting any results, you just might want to check out what kind of love and effort you are sending our Lord’s way.

Mark 12:31-33 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. (32) And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he: (33) And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices. (KJV)

There are no more works left to do Church except to believe in what our Lord accomplished for us by His sacrifice. The more you realize what He has done on our behalf, the more you experience the love of God personally.