

Do It Anyway!

Introduction

Scripture Reading: Luke 6:33-36

1. A speaker on a religious radio program at one time delivered a lesson in which the gist of his message was that sometimes when you try to do what is right, the person you do it for will not properly appreciate or respond to what you do.

A. His point was ----- "Do it anyway!"

2. Is that not implied by the apostle Peter?

1 Peter 2:11-12 Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, **they may, by your good works which they observe**, glorify God in the day of visitation.

A. Peter writes that we should do good, even though others may speak against us.

B. Then in 1 Peter 3:8-9 it says:

1 Peter 3:8-9 Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, **but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this**, that you may inherit a blessing.

- 1) We learn that we are to return good, even to those who do evil to us.

Romans 12:21 Do not be overcome by evil, but **overcome evil with good**.

Do It Anyway

1. In Business.

A. If we treat people right, give them a fair deal, good quality and a fair price, some will still take advantage of us and cheat us.

1) After this happens we may not feel like being so fair to people, but "Do it anyway!"

2) We may not be rewarded now, but God is watching and He will reward us come the day of judgment.

Luke 6:38 "Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."

2. In our speech.

A. If we refuse to speak with profanity, harsh language and cursing, some will not respect us for it.

1) They may make fun of us, and some will even harass us.

2) However, "Do it anyway!", for God appreciates it.

1 Peter 3:10-11 For "He who would love life and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips from speaking deceit. Let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it.

3. In speaking and teaching the gospel.

A. If we do our best to speak and teach the truth kindly and patiently, some will still accuse us of being harsh and unkind and will even be angry at our efforts.

1) This may tempt us to feel like not saying another word, but “Do it anyway!” They still need to hear the truth whether they like it or not.

2 Timothy 4:2-4 **Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season.**

Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

Galatians 4:16 Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth?

4. In our obedience to God.

A. If we show concern about following the word of God as close as we can, we will be looked at strangely, we will be told we are going too far, being too strict, causing problems, etc.

1) At times like that we may be tempted just to throw in the towel. We may feel like giving up on being concerned about following the will of God completely, but “Do it anyway!”

Matthew 4:4 But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, **but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.**'"

James 2:10 For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, **he is guilty of all.**

5. In our efforts to help others learn the truth.

A. If we try to help others we are working with and teaching to more perfectly understand the truth, we will sometimes be accused of being picky, and/or picking on them.

- 1) We may wonder why they misunderstand our sincere efforts to assist them. We may feel like never trying to help another person again, but “Do it anyway!”**
- 2) There are some who have a noble and good heart. They will respond favorably to the truth, even though others will not.**

Luke 8:15 "But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word **with a noble and good heart**, keep it and bear fruit with patience.

Acts 17:11-12 These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and **searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.** Therefore many of them believed, and also not a few of the Greeks, prominent women as well as men.

6. In our doing of good deeds.

A. When we do a good deed to another, it will not always be appreciated by them. Our kindness may be returned instead with a crabby remark, a glare, or just a complete ignoring of our efforts and/or presence.

- 1) We may be tempted to feel like never doing another kind deed to another person again, but “Do it anyway!”**
Luke 6:33-36

7. In our friendliness toward others.

A. When we show ourselves friendly, some will not return friendliness to us. Some will even be rude to us, but “Do it anyway!”

1) This is simply a matter of showing love, kindness and courtesy.

1 Peter 3:8 Finally, all of you be of one mind, **having compassion for one another**; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous;

1 Corinthians 13:4 **Love suffers long and is kind**; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;

Colossians 3:12-13 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; **even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.**

8. In our showing of hospitality.

A. If we do nice things to others, invite people over, show hospitality, often it will not be returned.

1) We may feel like “Why even try?”, but “Do it anyway!”

2) In showing this kindness to even the least of this your brethren, you are doing it to Jesus (Matthew 25:40)

1 Peter 4:9 Be **hospitable to one another** without grumbling.

Hebrews 13:1-2 Let brotherly love continue. **Do not forget to entertain strangers....**

9. In our inviting of others to church services.

A. We may ask people to come to a Bible Study, to listen to a sermon, to talk with us about the Bible, to read a tract or come worship God with us.

1) Many will refuse and some will even get mad. This may happen many times, and it will be discouraging, but “Do it anyway!”

2 Timothy 2:2 And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

10. In our encouragement of the weak:

A. We may encourage weak members to be more faithful, to assemble more, to be more active in the Lord. Some will not respond and such will be greatly discouraging.

**1) We may feel “What’s the use?”, but “Do it anyway!”
There will be some that will respond to our efforts.**

Galatians 6:1 Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

James 5:19-20 Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.

Conclusion

1. The point of this lesson is simply that when we find our good not being appreciated and we feel that we want to give up, “Do it anyway!”
2. We may not be rewarded by praise from men, but God will remember. He will reward us.
3. May we always remember and put into practice those golden words of Jesus:

Matthew 7:12 “Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, **do also to them**, for this is the Law and the Prophets.”

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Richard Thetford, April 1997 – Reworked April 2024 (Thoughts taken from an email article by Whit Sasser)