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1

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AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART

2

Doing God's Will

Acts 13:22 (NIV)

22 After removing Saul, he made David their king. God testified concerning him: 'I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.'

Matthew 3:17 (KJV)

17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Recently, we were challenged to shift our focus from self-centeredness and the inability to yield our will to God's will to a mindset of humility and respect for the things of God, especially a demonstration of the fruit of the Spirit in everything we do. The Bible described David as a man after God's own heart because he would do everything God wanted Him to do. Also, it is written that God said He was very pleased with Jesus. What do these two tell us about touching God's heart? It is all about doing the things God likes and living to please Him. How do we achieve this in our daily walk with Him? The tangible answer is living to emulate Jesus.

3

Emulating Jesus

Mark 12:30-31 (NIV)

30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

Emulating Jesus can be summed up in the above verses. We must live daily by being generous, compassionate, having a mind transformed to conform to the image of Christ at all times, having words seasoned with grace for building up others, and bringing glory to God. We must also be more humble, more willing to serve without expectation of reward or recognition, more patient, more understanding, and more willing to extend a helping hand. We must be more quick to forgive, and more slow to anger, and our responses should be marked by the same mercy and compassion that God has shown us. That is how Jesus lived. There will be obstacles to cause us to stumble along the way but our primary and main desire must be to always live in the presence of God and abide in His love through the working of the Holy Spirit. We must live like Jesus!

4

Take Away

Our primary and main desire must always be to live in the presence of God and abide in His love through the working of the Holy Spirit to reflect the Character of God. The way to do this effectively is to emulate Jesus. May we spend time to study how He lived to please God and emulate him. Amen!

5