

I AM WILLING TO MAKE SACRIFICES

KING SOLOMON

2 CHRONICLES 7:4

Day 3

King Solomon led the people in worship; that included offering sacrifices of animals on the altar. These animals were valuable to the people of that economy, and could have been used for some other profit-making or survival use. Sacrificing is giving up something that you would rather keep for yourself.

Good Christian people get around all this sacrifice talk by reminding each other that they have lived out Romans 12:1-2; they have given their lives to Christ for salvation, and they have told God they were willing to go to Africa, go to prayer meeting, and give money in the offering.

What about my money really? Am I willing to share it beyond the tithe? Some people need to buy books; some need food; some need car repairs; some need basic commodities. Maybe, someone needs a ride to the store or doctor.

How tightly do you hang on your precious time? Are you a schedule-oriented guy who allows nothing to slide in during the day? Some people need to walk with you; some need to talk; some won't admit it but they just need to eat with you or just sit with you for a while. When is the last time you wrote a short note or card & gave it to someone? Try giving someone an encouraging compliment. Share your struggles with someone. Ask someone to pray for you as you work through the issues of your complicated life. Volunteer to do something in your church, no matter how menial it might be.

Interruptions of our time do not normally come planned, and they are not often easy to agree to sometimes. Time is, however, a major sacrifice. You want to keep it, but when you shared time with someone, to you and to the other person that detour became an opportunity.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. What is the hardest part of your life to share with other people (the hardest sacrifice)? Explain why it is so difficult.
2. List the sacrifices you make every day, whether for someone else's benefit, or for your own growth & maturity.

A PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

What do you need to say to God as you face the topic being discussed in this devotional? Write out your prayer word for word just as if you were praying. Use separate lined paper to record your prayer. Make sure you actually pray this prayer to the Lord. Be honest & be personal. After all, you mean business with God here. You want this area of your life either fixed, strengthened, added, or removed.