



Head of School Letter

Proverbs 16:3 says, “Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.” This is the verse that popped into my head when our school’s Athletic Director recently mentioned the lack of commitment and follow through many students have when it comes to our sports programs. Another verse, Psalm 15:4, proclaims that the righteous man “swears to his own hurt and does not change.” This verse teaches that times will come when one might regret making a commitment, but that it is necessary to keep one’s word. In other words, “let your ‘yes’ be ‘yes.’” (James 5:12, Matthew 5:37)

I have been praying and asking the Lord why so many of our students are so lax in keeping their commitments to our sports teams. As I was praying about it, God brought to my mind the lack of commitment that is so rampant throughout our society. The divorce rate in America is over 50%, so commitment is certainly not in the area of marriage in our country. Also, I have often seen people in our society be slow to commit in order to take a better offer that may come up. Seeing these examples of lack of commitment in our society, it is no wonder that students struggle with commitment. However, often the reason people do not follow through with their commitment is that they do not want to put in the hard work involved in keeping that commitment.

It is a concern of mine that many Christians are sometimes oblivious to the biblical principle of keeping a promise even when it hurts. It is not what I want for our students. Instead, my prayer is that I will witness among our student body wonderful examples of Christian integrity. I understand that sometimes despite our best efforts, every promise we make is conditional because we may be unable to keep our word due to circumstances beyond our control (James 4:13-15, Prov. 16:9 27:1). However, we should make every effort to respond to Psalm 15:4 to bring glory to God.

If your student wants to participate in one of our sports teams they should expect to do some difficult things in keeping to their commitment. There may be times when they may regret having made a promise to be on a team, but they still should keep their commitment to the team they have joined. Not feeling like practicing or going to a game is not a valid reason to break one’s word.

I would encourage our students to be cautious about making commitments. Just avoid making too many commitments. They should be wise stewards of their time and resources. They should pray about every commitment they have an opportunity make. They should also clear their commitments with their parents, as often committing to a team also affects you as parents. If you agree to their commitment, however, you are also agreeing to commit and should be careful not to break your promise to the team either. Try not to make your promises conditional unless it’s beyond your control.

The passage in Psalm 15 is alluding to Christ, who alone is worthy to abide in God’s holy place (Psalm 15:1) and who lives and speaks with perfect righteousness and integrity (Psalm 15:2-5). He kept His eternal commitment to the Father by coming into the world to save His people. Through His faithfulness, He atoned for our unfaithfulness. We, who have been saved, should strive to emulate our Lord’s integrity.