

“Son” Flowers... A Devotional by the members of New Hope Church in Cooper, TX

Author: J.D. Winger

Scripture Verse Reference: Matthew 19:16-22 (Matt. 16:22) **“But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.”** (NKJV)

Worth

In the story of Jesus’ meeting with the rich young ruler, we learn how some people hang onto their worldly treasures. It seems they give them more value in their lives than life itself. This begs the question; “What are you willing to give up for life eternal?” For some, it may seem an easy decision to forsake the world and all its false idols (money, homes, property, friends, followers, self-pride, etc.) as we have little in this world. For others, the decision to surrender everything to God becomes more difficult. Many proclaimed Christians try to strike a compromise with God by offering a percentage of their self-worth.



Joshua 22:5 instructs us to **“...serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul.”** Can any of us honestly say we do this each day? When I look at my own life, I see where I often fall short. I like the security of having savings and a healthy retirement account balance. I am grateful for the security of having a full pantry, a freezer full of food, and cattle in the fields. I am proud of my almost mortgage-free ranch, little amassed debt, and 820 credit score. I am grateful for my consulting business that usually meets my financial needs. A business enabling my family to live the lifestyle to which we have become accustomed.

While holding onto all these worldly treasures, I recognize none of these things would be possible without God’s continued blessings. This causes me to be grateful for all He has given me. It also leads me to consider what I would be willing to give up in serving my God. I wish I could tell you I view my life like the apostle Paul states in Philippians 3:8. I cannot.

I cannot truthfully say I have suffered the loss of all things, that I count those things as rubbish. Perhaps in a day to come, but for now, I find contentment knowing I am a “work in progress.” Would I trade everything for life eternal? Yes, of course I would. God does not ask us to do this. I believe the more He blesses me with, the more I have to help pass along His blessings to others.

God does not view the things I own as worth. He views the Christian I am today and my willingness to become the Christian He wants me to be as worth. I strive each day to move closer toward the goal of becoming like Christ. I recognize I will not achieve glory until He calls me home. Until that day, I remain His faithful servant, striving to bring honor and glory to Him.