

Discount Christianity

I don't know anyone who doesn't like getting a discount. During the holiday season there are sales galore, offering different percentages off on the price of just about any merchandise you can image. The Black Friday sales create a buyer frenzy at many stores and the "after holiday" discounts are the best, sometimes offering as much as 50% of the retail price! Senior citizens enjoy their discounts at restaurants and at the grocery store on Tuesdays. Yes, everyone loves getting a discount.

Unfortunately, we sometimes treat our Christianity as a retailer would a discounted consumer product or service. It's as if we're trying to get our service to the Lord "off the shelf" as quickly as possible, giving Him a "discounted" amount of our time and effort. Let's give the following some thought:

- Do I miss 10%-20% of worship services?
- Do I only bring my children to Sunday school 60% of the time?
- Do I give 10% of my income when I could give more?
- Do I only read the bible 15% of the time?
- Do I offer only 30% of my talents to work in the church?
- Do I only check on the sick 5% of the time?
- Do I sing with 25% of the spirit and understanding?
- Do I listen to 10% of the bible lessons presented?
- Do I pray only believing 50% will be heard by God?

When Jesus called His disciples, they abandoned *ALL* they had and followed Him (*Matt. 4:20-22*). Paul gladly suffered the loss of *ALL THINGS*. (*Phil. 3:8*). These men sacrificed everything to serve the Lord and we should be willing to do the same, avoiding the offer of a discount Christianity.

*Jay Launius – 2022
Maud church of Christ
Maud, Texas*