

The Cost of Commitment

“This is what Hezekiah did throughout Judah, doing what was good and right and faithful before the LORD his God. In everything that he undertook in the service of God’s temple and in obedience to the law and the commands, he sought his God and worked wholeheartedly. And so he prospered” (2 Chronicles 31:20-21).

He paid a price to get the job done. It cost him something. It always does. What is the price of commitment a leader must consider?

- *Paying the price in our lifestyle.* Hezekiah could not live the way his father had lived. He made the decision to pay the price personally to effect the change he knew was needed.
- *The price of loneliness.* When he stepped out in obedience to God he was by himself at first. He was committed whether anyone stood with him or not. Every leader feels alone at times.
- *Faith is God’s medium of exchange.* He believed God would bless his efforts. “The only real influence you have over your future is your faith” (TRH). Success in our calling costs us the price of believing in God, ourselves, and others. We are limited by our unbelief. We empower others by believing in them.
- *Criticism.* It goes with the territory. He weathered the “harsh questions” of an older generation (Maxwell).
- *Energy and Resources.* Little is ever accomplished without hard work and money. It cost his time, energy, and money. Every goal requires some kind of resources to reach it. We must be willing to commit the resources needed. The wise man counts the costs ahead of time.
- *Discipline.* I heard someone say, “The secret of your future is hidden in your daily routine.” Here is a truth, “We will never have a harvest of success where all we ever plant is ideas. We must follow through with actions that reach into our daily living” (TRH). Hezekiah had to develop a daily regimen to bring about reform” (JM).

- *Pressure.* The more pressure an item is subjected to, the stronger it becomes. A godly leader understands this principle. Our dreams and goals transform from the proverbial *coal to diamond* with time and constant pressure. “Where there is no pressure there is no transformation” (TRH). Hezekiah endured the pressure of potential failure and misunderstanding. Also remember, “The heat burns out the dross”.

Our Father,

We thank You today for Your many blessings on our land. We thank You for giving us an opportunity to be a part of fulfilling Your will for this time. We thank You for the appointed leaders You have given us for this city. We ask for Your blessings upon these leaders today.

Dear Lord, bless our Mayor, his team, and their families. Protect them physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually from all harm. Gird them with moral integrity, wisdom, and a keen understanding for the time we are living in. We ask You to keep Your hand of mercy upon them and their loved ones. Surround them with Your grace.

Help our Mayor and his team to do their jobs in ways that will bring glory to You and blessing upon the people they serve. Help them to not grow weary in well-doing but to keep the right focus. Strengthen them with leadership skills of honesty, truth, and determination. Make them strong and steady under pressure. Give them clear minds to do what is best for all.

We pray for the safety and wellbeing of our community here. We ask You to cover our city and surrounding areas with Your blessings, as we give You all the praise, honor, and glory. Amen.