

Sunday, 03 February 2008
[Colossians 3:23-24](#)

Col 3:23-24 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord and not for people. Remember that the Lord will give you as a reward what he has kept for his people. For Christ is the real Master you serve.

Always giving my best.

So often we only do enough to not get into trouble, and because we have to do it. Finding people committed to their jobs, and calling is rare. Finding loyalty and eagerness in the working environment is something we read about in books of years gone by. People are downhearted and tired. They feel unappreciated, and if the boss wants loyalty he should buy a dog. Trying to lift the spirit in the work place, and getting everybody to work together would actually require a team-building event, should you be successful enough to get everybody to attend. But is this the way things should be for a child of God? We are often so guilty of also not giving our everything, in all situations. I am reminded of a story I heard many years ago. Let me share it with you.

A few years ago, there was this young boy who lived in England. This boy was very talented in playing soccer. When I say he was talented, it is actually not giving enough credit, for he was very good at this sport. The one problem was that he knew he was the best, and he would obviously make the team, regardless of his performance at team practice, or qualifying matches. Thus, if the coach asked the boy to do 20 set-ups he would do 10. Should the boys be told to run round the field 10 times, well, maybe he will go 5 times round. The coach was getting very upset with this boy. So often, the boy would even skip a practice session. The coach decided that he will teach this boy a lesson. It so happened that when the Thursday practice session was about to start, someone came to call the young boy back home. Apparently there was a crisis at home. The coach saw a opportunity, and decided to apply the rule that said, "should you miss practice, you will not be allowed to play the match." The team had a major match that Saturday.

That Saturday morning, when the match was about to start, the boy came running to play, but the coach had bad news for him... No practice, - no play! The boy started to beg the coach, "Please sir, Please allow me to play..." But the coach said: "NO!" Now, it so happened that this match was not going as planned for the coach and his team. They were really losing this match in a bad way. When it was half time, the scoreboard was so bad, that there was no way this team would ever win the game. Again the boy started pleading with the coach... "Please sir, Please allow me to play..." The coach feared he might lose his job, and allowed the boy to play... Just maybe they will get some points on the board, and he would not look as bad. But on this occasion the boy surprised everyone present. He played like they have never seen him played before. He played so good that the team actually won their game. When the game was over, coach called the boy and asked him what made the difference today, why now, suddenly he is performing as they always knew he could, but never did? The boy looked at the coach with tears in his eyes. He replied: "Sir, you remember that I was called home on Thursday, It was because my mother was very sick. My mother was blind, and was never able to come see me play. My father died when I was a baby. On Thursday my mother died, and she went to heaven. She could never see me play before, but today sir, she is watching me, and that is what made the difference..." He pointed to people waiting for him, and told the coach that he is now going with those people to a orphanage, and today might have been his last chance to show his mother just how good he could play. Anything to make his mom proud.

Why are we going thru live, as if our heavenly father is not watching us. Do we forget that we should always do everything as for Him, and not to satisfy others? Let us not get tired, and despondent, but truly go out and give our everything, for God will renew our strength.

Isa 40:31 But those who trust in the LORD for help will find their strength renewed. They will rise on wings like eagles; they will run and not get weary; they will walk and not grow weak.

* Should you wish to write me, and are in need of someone who would listen and pray with you... Please do. david@davidniebuhr.com

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