

## 2 Timothy 3:1-5

***But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!***

I know of a man who was in the hospital for a particular issue he was having. And while he was in the hospital, most of (but not all of) his kids and grandkids came and visited him there. Now this may sound good, which it is, but ever since he has been out of the hospital, his kids and grandkids do not come and see him or visit him or even invite him over, nor did they even before he was in the hospital. Yet they think because dad was in the hospital that they need to go see him to show him they care about him. But the truth is, it does not show they care about him at all. Because if you asked the dad, he would tell you that it meant nothing to him, if his kids did not see him any other time during the year, or month. Because, what really shows that they do love and care about him is how they treat him when he is not in the hospital.

These are what we would call CEO children, because they will go visit dad or their parents on Christmas and Easter **Only** (CEO) or on special occasions, if they remember to or if they can fit him/them into their busy schedule. But that's not a relationship at all, because they are "***disobedient to parents, unthankful, unloving***" and I think everyone would agree with that.

Yet how many treat God the exact same way. They think, let's go visit God on Christmas or Easter, (CEO Christians) because it's what we are supposed to do, go visit God on those holidays. Or if something bad is happening, let's talk to God, because He always comes through. You can always rely on God, even if we spend very little time with Him any other time of the year or month or week.

But I wonder if God feels the same way that this man does? If you are like me, before we became Christians, we treated God the exact same way ourselves, and I'm sure there were times even after we became Christians that we still treated God the same way. We allowed anything and everything to come before God. For me personally, I had to repent and ask God to forgive me for treating Him this way years ago. But I also had to thank Him that I no longer live like that and that I love my relationship with the Father. One I have with Him every day, for at least an hour of one-on-one time with Him every morning, as well as having Him in my life throughout the day.

This devotional is not to beat you up, but rather to help you appreciate that time... No that "Relationship" that you now have with the Father and His Son, Jesus. And if you really don't have one with Him, then ask yourself, "what if your kids treated you the same way this man's kids treated him", or "what if your kids treated you the same way you treat God and Jesus",

would you be happy or felt loved by them? If not, then don't treat God like this. For He is waiting for you. No matter how busy He is, He always has time for his children. Do you have time for Him?

- † **Jeremiah 33:3** *'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'*
- † **Hosea 12:6 (MSG)** *What are you waiting for? Return to your God! Commit yourself in love, in justice! Wait for your God, and don't give up on him—ever!*
- † **1 Corinthians 7:35 (MSG)** *I'm trying to be helpful and make it as easy as possible for you, not make things harder. All I want is for you to be able to develop a way of life in which you can spend plenty of time together with the Master without a lot of distractions.*