

## Romans 12:11 (NLT2)

*Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically.*

Some people are people watchers, because they just love to sit in a park or at the mall or anywhere and just watch people.

Others are not the same way, because they don't just sit there and watch people, but will observe them as they are out doing their own thing.

Then there are those who are so busy that they don't have time to stop and watch people, and they are usually the ones being watched by others.

But let me ask you, which one are you? Do you like to sit and watch people? Or do you like to do things, yet watch people while you do your thing? Or maybe you are one of those who are too busy to stop and watch others. And all these examples I give have to do with life and how we doing things.

But for us Christians, let's bring this a little more closer to home, or should I say, the church where you go to every week... At least I hope you are going every week.

Before we step into the church with this same question, let's look at it another way.

Say you go to the gym everyday and sit there watching everyone else work out. You don't actually workout with them, but you love to watch them and see the results over time of how they are getting more toned and buffed, while you are getting more flabby and fat.

Or maybe you do go to the gym, but you like to hang out with others and even help them workout, so together you are getting toned and buffed with your friends or family.

Or with our third example, you go and workout and stay by yourself, because you don't have time for people, because it's all about you and how you look and the results you get.

Probably the first example no one would ever do, because you wouldn't want to watch others workout.

But let's now take it to church.

So, which one are you in the church? Are you one of those who goes to church on Sunday, and maybe talk to one person as you head out as quickly as possible. Yet you hear and see the things others are doing and just sit there, watching everyone else do the work in the church. Then you walk away from church every Sunday and wonder why you keep falling into sin, and why you are more like the world and your non saved friends than like those in the church who are doing and growing, and you know they are strong Christians.

Like the gym example, you are watching others workout (or doing the work in the church) and get toned and buffed spiritually, but you are not.

Think of it this way, I have been a musician for many, many years now because I love music and as a Christian I love worshipping the Lord in song. But if I just sat there and watched others playing and singing, but never picked up an instrument or learned how to play, all I would have done over the years is sit on the sidelines watching others do what I wanted to do. But I didn't, I started out small with a little Casio keyboard and started to learn how to play. As time went on I rented a piano and learned on a real piano, then I went into full size keyboards and eventually got my first professional keyboard. From there I got recording equipment then finally recorded my first album. Now I have 5 albums and three singles available for all to hear and worship the Lord with on all streaming music platforms, including the big boys like iTunes, Spotify, Amazon etc... But it never, ever would had happened if I just sat there doing nothing.

Even my teachings, they started out with a simple homegroup that I taught. I could have went to others homegroups and sat on the sidelines, while other taught, but that's not what God called me to do, He called me to teach His word. Nowhere in the bible are we called to be observers while others do the work. No, we are ALL to participate in the work for the Lord, like those in the gym who workout together getting toned and buffed (spiritually) together.

So, what about you? Are you going to keep sitting and watching the Christian world go by as you do nothing, or are you going to join in with them and do something?

*"But I don't know what to do or how to do anything"* you may be thinking. One word for those who think like, and that is, "Copout". Like my example of being a musician, I could have said, *"I don't know how to play and instrument"* and let that stop what God wanted to do through me musically.

So, what is it that you want to do for the Lord, or what are you sensing He is calling you to do? Are you going to just sit there and watch others do it, or are you going to make excuses why you can't, or are you going to get up and do what the Lord has called you to do? You probably already know what it is that the Lord wants you to do, because it's in your heart already, and the only thing stopping you is you!

† **Exodus 4:10-12** *Then Moses said to the LORD, "O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither before nor since You have spoken to Your servant; but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue." So the LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes the mute, the deaf, the seeing, or the blind? Have not I, the LORD? Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say."*

