

# IMPACT

**I** **M**ust **P**ersonally **A**cknowledge **C**hrist **T**oday  
Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own under-  
standing; *in all your ways acknowledge Him* and He shall direct your path.  
Proverbs 3:5-6

**Passage:** Deuteronomy 10:12-13 “And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to *fear* the LORD your God, to *walk* in all His ways and to *love* Him, to *serve* the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to *keep* the commandments of the LORD and His statutes which I command you today for your good.”

**Quote:** “Don’t despise small things; remember that a little lantern can do what a great sun can never do—it can shine in the night.” –Unknown

**T**he final verses in the book of Job describe a man who was a success in the world’s eyes. Yet Job’s true success flowed from a desire to please God. In the midst of intense spiritual, emotional and physical trial, he said, “I have not departed from the commandment of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food.”<sup>1</sup> Likewise, Christ said, “My meat is to do the will of Him that sent me.” He warned His disciples about viewing accomplishment as the world does. “He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He spoke this word openly. And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. But when He had turned around and looked at His disciples, He rebuked Peter, saying, ‘Get behind Me, Satan! For *you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.*’”<sup>2</sup> Christ saw in Peter’s words a temptation to give in to the fear of what lay ahead for Him on the cross.

Even though love for Christ prompted his words, Peter was not seeing Christ’s mission as the Messiah from God’s point-of-view. **For Christ, accomplishment required the cross!** Jesus said, “For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.... And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”<sup>3</sup> Christ was telling the disciples that no accomplishment in this life is worth anything unless it has the will of God as its foundation! He could say to

the Father, “I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.”<sup>4</sup>

God has fashioned and equipped each of us with the talents and resources that we need to accomplish His will for our lives in ways that fulfill His purpose for all things—the display of His glory—the unique, indescribable *Excellence* that sets Him infinitely apart from all else! It is our responsibility to display and to develop all that He has bestowed upon us in ways that draw clear and unapologetic attention to Him as our all-in-all.

The essential key to true accomplishment is that our efforts remain focused on love for God and for the eternal welfare of others. “Using intentional exaggeration, Paul emphasizes the uselessness of gifts exercised without love.”<sup>5</sup> “Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I

## God’s A Honor Roll, Accomplishment

have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, *I am nothing*. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, “Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, *I am nothing*. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, *it profits me nothing*.” Love-driven accomplishment has never been personified better than when our Lord cried from the cross, “Father, forgive them for they know not what they do!” We all fall far short of Christ’s example, and must renew our focus upon the real and lasting accomplishment of life—fearing Him, obeying Him, loving Him, serving Him with all that we are and have for His glory.

1 Job 23:12 2 Mark 8:31-33 3 Jn. 6:38-40 4 Jn.17:4 5 1 Cor.13:1-3; Reformation Study Bible