

What Motivates Us to Follow Christ?

Six primary biblical motives have been identified by which we respond to our Lord:

1. Obedience to Christ – Romans 1:14; 1 Corinthians 9:16-17
2. Love for God and man – Matthew 22:39; 2 Corinthians 5:14
3. The Glory of God – Isaiah 42:8; 43:7
4. The fear of the Lord – 2 Corinthians 5:11
5. The gospel reveals man's only hope – John 6:68
6. Co-labor with God – 1 Corinthians 3:9

People usually respond strongly to two of these motivations. After the activity, have each group member choose the one or two options that best fit them as they have been designed by God. For further study outside the group, think about having members do an in-depth study about the ones they did not choose. Low motivation can often be a result of a lack of familiarity. We tend to focus on what we know.

It is also possible to start your outside study with the one or two areas you choose. Go more in depth to study those areas which are most strongly on your heart. As part of the activity, have each person in the group discuss and share why they chose a particular motivation.

The activity:

- Each person receives a printout of the 6 motivations
- Read together the passage noted
- At the conclusion of the readings, have each person take some time and identify the one or two motivations that connect with them (allow 5 minutes minimum)
- Bring the group back and discuss and share why they chose that particular motivation
- Suggest to the group how they can study each motive outside the group
- You can assign motives not chosen or study the strengths
- Come back and report to the group what you found in your studies as a follow up

Materials:

- Copy of the 6 motivations
- Your Bible
- Something to write with and on (pen and paper)
- Index cards for notes