

Message Study Guide

(Scriptures & quotes from this week's message are available on [thorncreek.church/live](http://thorncreek.church/live))

**Warming up**

1. What does it personally take to be committed to something?

**Digging Deeper & Application**

Take your time reading the scripture given. If possible look up the verses in different versions and pause at each verse and discuss it.

2. Can you describe a situation where you wanted to walk away from something, but you didn't? What happened?
3. Several studies have shown: The typical employee stays at a job for 4.6 years. The median tenure for workers age 25 to 34 is 3.2 years. The average pastor tenure was around 3.6 years, Studies have shown the average worship pastor tenure is 2-3 years. The average tenure of a youth pastor is around 18 months. "In the typical Protestant congregation, one-third of the people in the pews are not definite in their plans to continue attending that church." Why do you think we don't stick around long?
4. Peter Brookshaw said, "Our propensity to quit is no doubt spurred on by a culture of immediacy. This means that as soon as you don't get what you want, when you want it, you move on. You make changes and you make choices to suit your own selfish desires." Do you agree or disagree? Why?
5. Please read Ruth 1:1-18. Who was Ruth married to, and what was the name of their children? What were the names of Ruth's daughter-in-laws? Why type of women were they? What about this story jumps out at you? Who left Ruth? Why? Who chose to stay with Ruth?
6. What would you say you are wholeheartedly committed to and why? What are you more committed to, your work or your church? Why?
7. Paul David Tripp writes to Christians: "Your life is much bigger than a good job, an understanding spouse, and non-delinquent kids. It is bigger than beautiful gardens, nice

vacations, and fashionable clothes. In reality, you are part of something immense, something that began before you were born and will continue after you die. God is rescuing fallen humanity, transporting them into His kingdom, and progressively shaping them into his likeness—and he wants you to be a part of it.” What are your thoughts about this quote?

8. Pastor Ruben said, “There are some people who make a living floating from one thing to another, from one place to another, from one person to another, without ever committing.” How does this attitude affect God’s purpose for our lives?
  
9. Please read Ruth 1:14. What do you think is the key word in this verse that explains Ruth’s commitment? This same word in its original text is found in Genesis 2:24. Can you find it? The average length of a US marriage that ends in divorce is about seven years. How does this stat compare with this quote from Gary Thomas? “What if God’s primary intent for your marriage isn’t to make you happy...but holy?”
  
10. Please read John 6:52-69. What happened?
  
11. According to Ruth 4:13-17, what was the reward for Ruth’s commitment?

### **Application**

Below are some of the points shared in the message. Discuss how they apply to your life.

- Christians who have accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior made a Commitment to God
- That Commitment is a Choice but comes with a price.
- Be Committed to God
- Be Committed to your Church
- Be Committed to your fellow Believers