

YWAC



Young Women Active for Christ

April/May 2013

ARE YOU A TARGET CHRISTIAN? (Luke 18:20-30)

Target: Expect More. Pay Less.®

Most all of us are familiar with this ad slogan. Whether or not it's true, this motto tells us we can buy greater quality and quantity of things for less money. Basically, we get more for giving less. Think about that—we GET MORE for GIVING LESS. But don't overlook the keyword in their motto: EXPECT.

A Driving Expectation

I remember when it was time for me to take my driving permit test. All of my friends took theirs and passed it, no problem. They never once looked at the study booklet they give you. I thought it would be a piece of cake, so I never looked at the book before the test. The first day I went to take it I was fully confident I would pass and be the proud owner of a piece of paper that gave me permission to drive. WRONG. I failed!

I was devastated. How in the world could a driving test be this hard? It's basically common sense, right? I retook it, never opening the booklet again. Second Attempt: FAIL!

By now I was in mortal shock...and tears. I mean I thought maybe I rushed through the test the first time and marked stupid answers. Obviously I needed to sit down and study the handbook. I spent the next 30 days reading and studying that Driver's Booklet. Third Attempt: PASS!

A Missing Pricetag

The rich young ruler wanted something many other people had. However, he wasn't willing to pay the price it took to receive that precious gift. More important than me getting a permit, this young ruler thought he could receive the precious gift of eternal life by giving little to no effort in following Christ.

***"Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal,
Do not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother.***

And he said, All these have I kept from my youth up"

(Luke 18:20-21).

This guy knew the commandments, and he did his best to obey them all his life. I knew about driving. After all, my mom and dad had let me drive some down our street as I grew up. But there was one thing the rich young ruler and I were missing.

"Now when Jesus heard these things, he said unto him,

***Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven:
and come, follow me. And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich"***

(Luke 18:22-23).

Jesus knew his heart and what he coveted the most. That's why He asked him to sell all that he had in exchange to follow Him. Notice what happened; he became sorrowful. Why? He wanted to be saved, but on his terms. I wanted my permit,

but on my own terms. No studying! I had to give up my time watching TV or time I spent with my friends for studying to receive the thing I desired most. I expected to receive more by giving less. We cannot grow in Christ if we aren't fully committed to walking with Him daily in prayer, Bible study and worship. It just will not work. We must give him ALL, not just some of our lives in order to have the fullness of Christ.

“And he said unto them, *Verily I say unto you,
There is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or wife, or children,
for the kingdom of God's sake, Who shall not receive manifold more in this present time,
and in the world to come life everlasting*”

(Luke 18:29-30).

It doesn't have to be money that separates you from truly knowing and receiving Christ as your Savior. It could be popularity, friends, hobbies, sports, etc. Whatever it may be if you set that aside and let Christ reign in your life you will be blessed MANY times more PLUS eternal life! Is that not an awesome reward?

So are you a Target Christian?

TARGET PRACTICE (*meeting activities*)

Here are some YWAC meeting activities and ideas to remind you of the importance of full commitment to Christ.

Target® Trek

Plan an afternoon of shopping at your local Target or other department store. Encourage each girl to bring money to buy something, not for themselves but for a Kingdom cause (Shoeboxes, Provision Closet, The Hanna Project, local church outreach ministry, etc.. Talk about having the willingness to give everything in order to gain eternal reward.

Hlt or Miss

Write these areas (and others) on slips of paper: boyfriends, good grades, friendships, video games, Facebook, clothes, shoes, jewelry, family relationships, college choice, etc. Seat girls in a circle. Put slips of paper in a pile in the center. Have each girl choose a slip read it aloud and share whether this is an area in which she might “expect more, give less”. Then have group members share ways she could improve or adjust attitudes toward these things.

Target a Community

Invite girls to give more within their community. Sponsor a free carwash or yard sale. Enlist other friends to help and serve—no expectations.



About the Author:

Brandi Meeks of Ecru, Mississippi serves as a youth leader and sign language interpreter in her home church, Bethlehem FWB Church in Pototoc, Mississippi, Brandi (26) is a Surgical Technologist at Baptist Memorial Hospital.