**Pastor Devotions** – ***Easter People, Raise Your Voices!***

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Peace and Grace to you during this beautiful Eastertide season.  I love this time of year.  As we approach spring into summer and celebrate the holiest and most rejuvenating seasons of our spiritual lives.  Easter is a time for us to not only repent of our sins but a time to renew our commitment to our Lord and Savior.  For He is Risen!  He is Risen, Indeed!!  And with His resurrection we have been given a most precious gift.  The gift of eternal life.

So, with that thought in mind – How much of your earthly life are you willing to actually commit to your Lord?

Here are a few questions for you to discern:

***Does worshipping Him enter into your vow of commitment?***  Hebrews 10:24-30 states:  “And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another  – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”  This verse reminds us that it is very important to gather together in worship.  For those are the times we grow and mature in our faith and encourage others to as well.

***Is daily prayer important to you?***  A popular scripture about prayer is Philippians 4:6: “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.” This verse encourages seeking God through prayer and expresses the importance of gratitude.  Another important verse is 1 Thessalonians 5:17: “Pray without ceasing.” This verse emphasizes the importance of consistently praying, even in the midst of daily life. For prayer is the way we become more personal and intimate in our relationship with Christ.

***And finally, how deliberate do you take the call of the Great Commission?***Matthew 28:19-20: “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”  This verse commands followers of Jesus to spread his teachings and baptize new believers in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  This means inviting others into a relationship with Christ.

My dear and faithful friends, these are questions only you can answer for yourself, and Eastertide gives us opportunity to re-focus our priorities and find ways of renewal and new growth.  Now is the perfect moment for self-examination and a renewed faithful commitment to Him who has gifted you this earthly life by making the choice to take a deeper step in your faith journey.  May you find your way to come home and find your center with Him your great Redeemer, Sustainer, Savior and Friend.

So, Easter People, Let Us Raise Our Voices – for He is Risen!  He is Risen, Indeed!!

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