COMMITTED TO THE CHURCH II

A church needs some very dedicated people. Those people are made up of some very committed persons. One of the favorite stories I can remember my former pastor telling was of a man who attended his childhood church. The numbers had gotten quite low in the church and they were speaking of closing the doors. The men were meeting to discuss the details when the old gentlemen spoke up. He said “you all can do what you want to do but as long as I have the strength I will still climb this hill and I will still light the fire and if someone comes to this church there will be someone here to meet them.”

On the wall in my office at home I have several pictures of churches. One is of a little white church that may be somewhere in the Dakotas. At the base of the picture there is a small creek that is mostly frozen over. The bank that meets the creek is covered with what looks to be about two feet of snow. About two hundred feet away sits the church. The backdrop is multiple banks of mountains that just mount higher and higher. The tops of the mountains are snow covered and reach upward until they fade into the clouds. With its steep pitched roof and high steeple and a cross at the very top this little church sits isolated in this lonely valley.

The picture I have tried to describe is a beautiful picture but I must tell you why I purchased the picture. I bought it at Heart’s Desire and waited a few months to have it framed. As I looked at the picture I noticed two horses tied to the hand rails of the steps that went into the church. At the top of the far end of the roof is a chimney and a whisp of smoke is coming from it. In this lonely little church two people are committed to coming to the church. They have the fire burning and they expect to meet the Lord on this Sabbath morning. There was a special blessing awaiting those who attended the church that day.

God has a special blessing for us this Sunday also. Someone had the heat or the air on. The doors were unlocked and it is comfortable inside. God bless those who are committed to that task. Teachers will be prepared as you enter your Sunday School classes. Our music directors will have songs ready for us to sing. The piano, organ and guitars will be in tune. All that is left is for us to worship. God is ready to speak to us. Lord, help us be ready to listen. Will you commit to your part today?

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram