

## How Dependable Are You?

Chances are you have been to at least one, if not several, job interviews in your life. In that interview you were asked many questions. One of the most important questions you were asked was, “How dependable are you?” Every company wants employees they can count on. Companies want employees that will show up for work when they’re supposed to. They want employees that can be counted on to put forth their best effort every day. They want employees that care about their job or career.

Chances are you work hard at your career. You show up for work on time and you are an asset to the company you work for. In your career you make every effort to make yourself as indispensable as possible. You value your job and are trying to keep it. The reasons for doing this are obvious. It takes money to have things like food, shelter, and clothes. Last time I checked, I liked food, and my clothes, and the shelter God has blessed me with. So you and I both place priorities on being as dependable as possible so we can have things in this life. After all, the scripture says, **“If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat”** (2Thessalonians 3:10).

However, isn’t there something far more important than this? I want to ask you a question. How dependable are you as a Christian? Let that question sink in for just a moment. Let that question provoke a lot of thought about your life. As a matter of fact, stop reading and think about your answer to that question. How dependable are you as a Christian? This may be the single most important question you will ever be asked. After all, your dependability as a Christian will determine your eternal home. Paul told the church at Corinth, **“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil”** (2 Corinthians 5:10).

Your first obligation in this life is to God. Is He able to count on you to do the things you are supposed to? Do you love Him enough to desire to please Him? In John 14:15 Jesus said, **“If you love me, you will keep my commandments”**. God has said that our efforts or work we do for Him will not be in vain. **“Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain”** (1 Corinthians 15:58). Look at that passage closely. You are commanded to be: steadfast, immovable, and always abounding. That sounds like someone who is dependable doesn’t it?

Who else depends on you? What about your family? Your spouse depends on you to be the kind of husband or wife you need to be. God has determined the role of the husband and the wife in the scriptures. God expects you to be dependable in your relationship with your spouse. If you have children they are very dependant on you. In Ephesians 6:4 Paul said, **“Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord”**. Children need to be dependable in their relationship with their parents. **“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right”** (Ephesians 6:1). It is so important to understand that you need to be dependable. Your family is relying on you.

What about your brothers and sisters in Christ? Your spiritual family depends on you so much. In your worship to God you are told to help your fellow Christians. **“Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God”** (Colossians 3:16). You are also told to be a source of encouragement to other Christians. **“Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing”** (1 Thessalonians 5:11). It is crucial to be dependable and help your brothers and sisters. Your spiritual family depends on you.

That’s not all. You need to be dependable in every aspect of life. You need to be dependable to friends, co-workers, strangers, and so many more. You may wonder how you can be dependable to a stranger. The best way to be dependable to any person is to be the kind of example you need to be. Face the facts: you influence people. People you may only see once in your life may be influenced by something

they saw you do or say. Jesus said, ***“You are the light of the world..., let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your father who is in Heaven”*** (Matthew 5:14-16).

As a Christian you are depended on by so many. Please determine in your life that you are going to be the best Christian you can be. Make the decision that you are going to work diligently to be someone God can count on to lead others to Him. Be more determined as a Christian than you are as an employee. Make the decision to be someone who is a dependable Christian.

--Mark E Robinson