

The Also Principle

The Also Principle Defined

The Also Principle is demonstrated many times throughout scripture and always relates to character, obedience and inheritance. This life-giving principle is defined by a willing attitude to do more than is asked of you to serve others, even when it is inconvenient. It is an attitude about everyday life that says, "I will do more than what is expected of me because I am working for the Lord. He will reward me." In other words, when you do your work don't just do what is required of you. Instead, make it a practice to go beyond without desiring praise or credit from people. Work as if God were your boss. This attitude will cause you to receive "the reward of the inheritance" mentioned in Colossians 3:23-24.

And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. (NKJV)

When *The Also Principle* is woven into our character and we are obedient to God's Word, we will experience God's blessings.

Character & Attitude

In Genesis 24:10-26 we read about Abraham sending his servant to his home country to select a wife for his son. He asked God to cause the right woman to encounter his servant at a well who would say to him, "Drink and I'll water your camels *also*." This character and attitude would reveal to Abraham's servant that she was whom the Lord had selected. And so, Rebekah was God's chosen to become Isaac's wife.

When we choose to serve others with godly character that is responsible, industrious, courteous, charitable, willing, faithful, hospitable, and willing to follow through, we will exemplify a righteous attitude that seeks to serve and bless others, no matter the cost. As Dr. David Shibley, the Founder of Global Advance, has said, "Count the cost. Pay the cost. Forget the cost." Like Rebekah, our character and subsequent attitude will position us to be sensitive to the needs of others and to be willing to go the extra mile to meet those needs.

The Also Principle at Home

In Luke 17:7-10, Jesus clearly teaches that after we have done our work for the day, we are still to serve one another with *The Also Principle* in mind. This scripture reminds us to serve those in our homes and our spheres even after our work for the day is done. For example,

- ❖ When you set the table, light the candle – also.
- ❖ When you wash and dry your laundry, fold it – also.
- ❖ When you wash the dishes, dry them and put them away – also.

- ❖ When you dust, vacuum or sweep – also.
- ❖ When you mow the lawn, remove any weeds – also.

Be led by the Spirit as you put *The Also Principle* into practice in your home, particularly when you are tired from a long day. Remember, the inheritance of Abraham – namely faith, provision, prosperity and relationship with God – will be yours as you are willing to serve others above and beyond what is expected of you.

The Also Principle at Work

In the passage in Colossians 3:23-24, the word “heartily” is variously translated as “sould,” “breath,” “heart,” or “life.” This scripture is telling us to put our minds to whatever we do. Whether you work in the marketplace or in your home, do not do your work with a halfhearted attitude, but instead add the “also.” For example,

- ❖ When it is time to leave work, ask if there’s anything to serve your boss – also.
- ❖ Clear your desk, dust it – also.
- ❖ Drive your car, clean it out – also.
- ❖ Wash your hands, dry the basin – also.
- ❖ Wash the dishes, wipe down the counters – also.

Putting *The Also Principle* into practice in your work will require you to be led by the Spirit, particularly on those busy days. But when you seek to do all that you do “as unto the Lord,” He will give you all that you need to do what He’s calling you to do.

The Also Principle in Your Speech

In Colossians 4:5-6, we have clear instructions as believers to let our speech “always be with grace, seasoned with salt...” This means that we are to give honor and favor to the person to whom we are speaking. This is how we put *The Also Principle* into practice in our speech. For example,

- ❖ When you pass someone on the street, smile or say hello – also.
- ❖ When you enter a room full of people, interact with those you don’t know very well – also.
- ❖ When you meet someone for coffee, ask how you can pray for them – also.
- ❖ When you have a conversation with a customer service person about an issue, thank them for their service – also.
- ❖ When you are giving instructions to your children or someone who works under you, speak a word of encouragement to them – also.

Remember, as Proverbs 18:21 states, “Death and life are in the power of the tongue...” As you speak words of life to those around you, you not only serve and bless them, but *also* honor God.

Your Response

Take time to ask the Lord to reveal by His Spirit what areas He is calling you to repent of any character or attitude issues that do not serve and honor Him, or those around you. Consider changes the Lord is asking you to make in your day-to-day life in order to implement *The Also Principle* for His glory and for others’ good, and list those changes in the space provided.
