

Worth it!
(Living whole-hearted lives)

Week 2: Have To/Want To

Ephesians 5:33- 6:9

God wants to save us from living half-hearted lives.

Last week:

Sin and idolatry makes us slaves to falsehood.

We are whole-hearted when we are whole-hearted to
God.

Today: Getting stuck in the drudgery of obligation.

Remember your...

- First day at school?
- First big challenge?
 - First date?
 - First job?

How does 'want to' turn in to 'have to'?

“You load 16 tons and what do I get, another day older and deeper in debt.”

Ecclesiastes 2:22, “What does a man get from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun?”

Ecclesiastes 2:22, “What does a man get from his labor and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun?”

Work and Passion

What’s the difference between working for something/someone-
And striving with your heart for something/someone?

Ephesians 5:33 – 6:8

Husbands, Wives, Parents, Children, Workers, Bosses

The Hardest challenge:

Ephesians 6:5-6, “Bondservants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers...”

- What is the motivation level of a slave?

God doesn't do "have to".



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God doesn't do "have to".

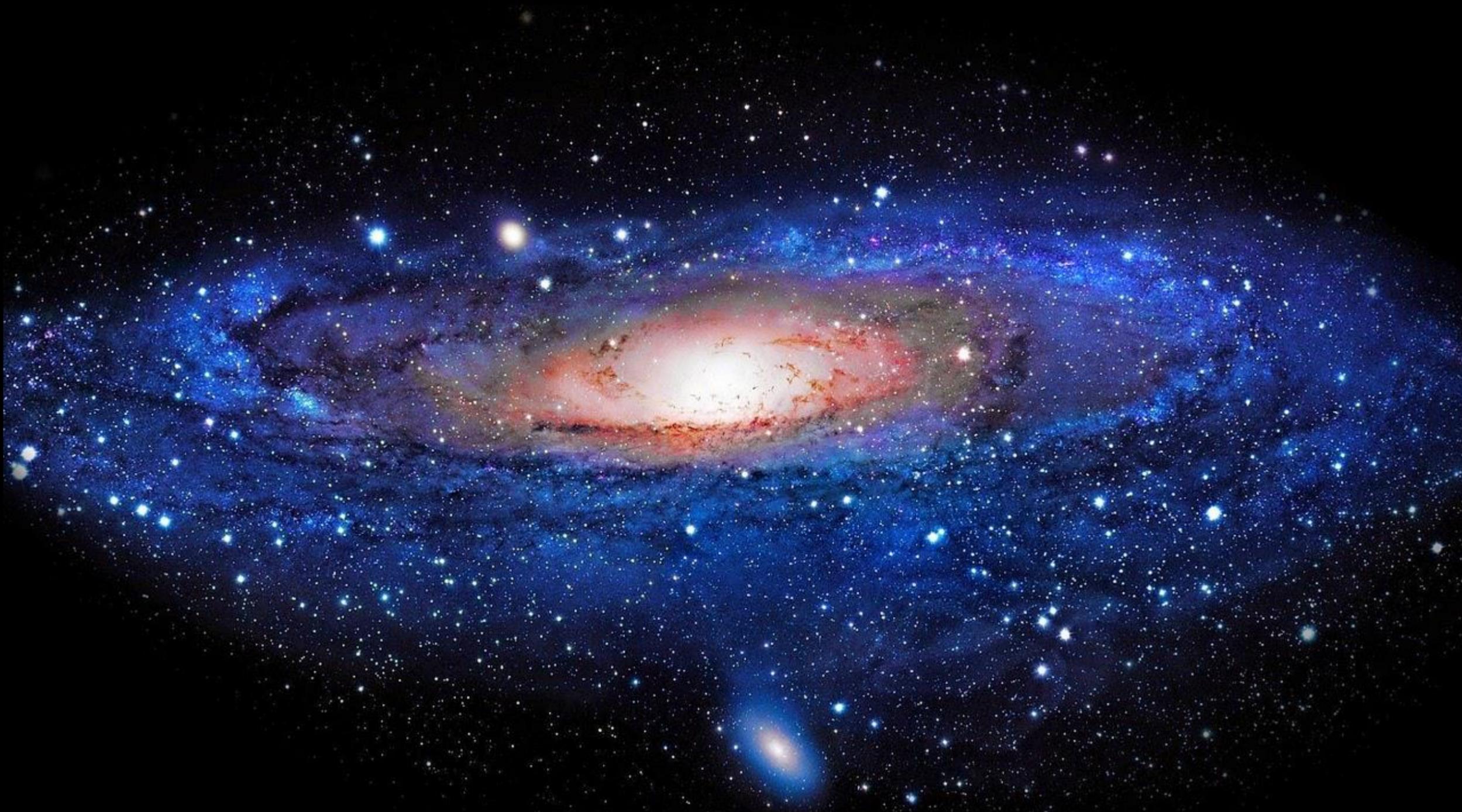


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God doesn't do "have to".



God is not in the earning Game...

Romans 3:22-24, “For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.”

Romans 4:4, “Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due.”

God is (the only one) not in the earning Game...

Luke 15:27-30, “And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!'”

Jesus came to free us to live by the creativity of grace.

Law is Earning

Grace is giving

Matthew 5:38, "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also."

Matthew 5:42-45, “Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.”

How can Jesus' way of grace turn enemy haters
into enemy lovers?

- could the law of Moses do this?

Could the law of Moses do this?

John 12:1-3, “Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table. Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.”

Could the law of Moses do this?

Acts 4:34-37, “There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.”

Could the law of Moses do this?

Luke 23:33-34, “And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”

Could the law of Moses change hearts?

No, only grace can put passion back into us for the work we are called to do.

Grace changes our motivations
- We live grateful

Ephesians 6:5-8

Ephesians 6:5-8, “Bondservants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart (Psuche- spirit, soul), rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or is free.”

Not because you have to:

- Husbands love your wives
- Wives respect your husbands
- Children honor your parents
- Parents invest in your kids
- Employees work hard for your bosses
- Bosses take care of your employees

Do it out of love for God. Do it like your doing it for God.

You aren't a slave, you're a son!

Galatians 4:4-7, "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God."

What is your calling in life?

Are you working at it as you would for God?