Intro:
- questions Christians sometimes ask:
  - How much time in a day should I spend with God?
  - How much time during the week should I spend working for God?
  - What percentage of my day-to-day activities should be spent doing God’s work?

- in one way, all our work is for the Lord, it’s a matter of proper priorities in life

- lesson: Don’t Give God a Piece of the Pie, Give Him the Whole Thing!
- title, result of conversation with Michael Matthews

Everything you do is for God, and to His glory! – whole pie
- whatever you do....
  - 1 Cor. 10:31 do all to the glory of God – eat or drink
  - Col. 3:23 whatever we do, do heartily as unto the Lord (context: work)
  - Col. 3:17 whatever we do, do all in the name of the Lord – authority of the Lord, unto the Lord

- illus.: Paul, preaching the gospel – for God, to His glory
  - 1 Cor. 9:23 did all things for sake of gospel
    - vs. 19 slave to all
    - vs. 22 became all things to all men

- illus.: Paul, in everything he did – for God, to His glory
  - 1 Cor. 9:24-25 like running a race, exercising control in all things
  - 1 Cor. 9:26-27 like boxer, disciplined body and made it his slave
  - e.g., working (making tents), eating, sleeping, every choice he made in life of a personal nature (expediencies), choosing to remain single, where to live

What is the commitment required, to do everything for God and to His glory? – love
- Lk. 10:27 love God with all – heart, soul, strength, mind

- illus.: Jesus – commitment, love, obedience
  - Jn. 14:31 Jesus loved the Father, and did exactly as He commanded
  - Lk. 22:39-44 Jesus’ agony in garden, prayer, sweat as blood
  - Heb. 5:7-8 agony, obedience – prayers and supplications, loud crying, suffered, learned obedience
    - commitment God requires is love (heart, soul, strength, heart), obedience

- illus.: Christians – love God more than life
  - Rev. 12:11 Christians, heaven, love God more than their own lives

- Do you love God more than your own life?
God wants your all! – whole pie
- Lk. 11:34-36 we’re either all light or all darkness – no middle ground
  - give God 100% and be light / give God 99% and be darkness

- Rev. 3:15-16 God (Jesus) wants your all (100%), not satisfied with less
  - Rom. 12:11 not lagging, diligence, fervent in spirit
    - diligent: “hasten to do a thing, to exert oneself” (Vine’s)
    - fervent: “to be hot, boil” (Vine’s)
  - What’s a Christian like who’s hastening to do the work, exerting himself, boiling hot? – are you

- Tit. 2:14 Jesus gave Himself, redeem (buy back), zealous for good deeds – 1 Cor. 6:19-20
  - zeal: “passionate ardor in the pursuit of any thing. In general, zeal is an eagerness of desire to accomplish or obtain some object” (KJ Dictionary)
  - Is zeal for God evident in your life? – everything you do – how

Jesus, disciples, requires all – 100% commitment – diligent, fervent, zealous
- Lk. 9:57-62 commitment: to live homeless, to put family second (living and dead)
  - vs. 62 not be like plowman who looked back, would make him go crooked, fail
  - Lk. 17:32 Jesus, “Remember Lot’s wife,” disobeyed, looked back, possibly longing for past life and lost loved ones, turned into pillar of salt
    - illus.: Polly Phillips, mother died, visitation Sunday evening during church, missed the visitation to worship

- illus.: qualified widow to be put on the roll – old woman, 60+ – diligent, fervent, zealous
  - 1 Tim. 5:5-6, 9-10 qualifications, widow to be put on roll
    - fixed her hope on God
    - continues in entreaties and prayers night and day
    - not given herself to wanton pleasure
    - having been the wife of one man
    - having a reputation for good works
    - brought up children
    - shown hospitality to strangers
    - washed the saints’ feet
    - assisted those in distress
    - devoted herself to every good work
    - Would you qualify as a widow age 60+? - maybe you’re only 20, 30, 40 - are you doing that much work

- God wants lukewarm Christians to repent and be zealous!
  - Rev. 3:15-16 Who is a lukewarm Christian? - one who’s not zealous
  - Rev. 3:19 if we’re not zealous, we’re lukewarm, and must repent to be saved

- God gave all / Jesus gave all / they demand that we give all – anything less is unacceptable to God
God gets the whole pie, but we set the priorities!
- although we give God our all, we still have to properly set priorities
  - illus.: man works a lot of hours, and does nothing with the church but attend services, does no personal work – priorities are out of balance
  - doing all for the Lord doesn’t excuse us from balancing our priorities

➤ - Christians are soldiers of Christ – our priorities must be balanced accordingly
  - illus.: song #231 “Soldier’s Of Christ, Arise”
  - 2 Tim. 2:3-4 not entangle in everyday life – stay in spiritual priorities
    - illus.: Jeremy Emerson, Air Force, basic, could call wife, not entangled everyday life
  - 2 Tim. 2:5 like athlete, must compete according to the rule to win prize – priorities, no shortcuts
  - 2 Tim. 3:6 like farmer, we’ll be rewarded if work hard – no substitute for hard work, priorities

➤ - Are you entangled in everyday life, or active as a soldier of Christ? – work, school, other people, recreation
  - Are your priorities balanced as God desires? – not as you desire
  - Are you putting too much emphasis on one aspect of life, and not enough on spiritual things and the church?

- illus.: Gayle Williams (told was a Christian)
  - aid worker in Afghanistan, who shared her faith about God with people, knew she could be persecuted, gunned down by the Taleban on Oct. 20, 2008
  - can’t be entangled in worldly things, concerns, to risk life telling others about Christ

➤ Summary / Inv.
- God deserves 100% of our lives, and that’s what He requires – 100% commitment to Him.
- Giving God our whole live includes properly ordering our priorities, to serve Him faithfully in Christ’s army, not entangled in the affairs of everyday life.
- Have you given God the whole pie? – your whole life – with your priorities in order as a soldier of Christ
- inv.