



The Year of Doing My Best by Faith

Presented by Pastor Daren L. Barron

Sermon Notes from January 4, 2009

Doing My Best

- Doing your best is taking an action because you love it, not because you're expecting a reward. ... The reward is when people happen to enjoy what you love doing anyway. However, your total reward is not diminished if others don't enjoy it.
- When you do your best, you learn to accept and gain insight of yourself. But you have to be aware and learn from your mistakes. Learning from your mistakes means, you look honestly at the results, and keep in preparation, keep practicing, and keep praying. This increases your awareness.

Many don't know what their best looks like.

- complacent
- afraid
- don't want increased responsibility
- not disciplined

There are people and organizations out there that are doing their best to destroy you and the church!

Galatians 1:13 (New Living Translation)

13 You know what I was like when I followed the Jewish religion—how I violently persecuted God's church. I did my best to destroy it.

Doing My Best

James 1:25 (New Living Translation)

25 But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.

James 1:25 (New King James Version)

25 But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

God Wants Our Best.

Genesis 4:1-8 (Contemporary English Version)

1 Adam and Eve had a son. Then Eve said, "I'll name him Cain because I got him with the help of the LORD." 2 Later she had another son and named him Abel. Abel became a sheep farmer, but Cain farmed the land. 3 One day, Cain gave part of his harvest to the LORD, 4 and Abel also gave an offering to the LORD. He killed the first-born lamb from one of his sheep and gave the LORD the best parts of it. The



LORD was pleased with Abel and his offering, 5 but not with Cain and his offering. This made Cain so angry that he could not hide his feelings.

6 The LORD said to Cain: What's wrong with you? Why do you have such an angry look on your face? 7 If you had done the right thing, you would be smiling. But you did the wrong thing, and now sin is waiting to attack you like a lion. Sin wants to destroy you, but don't let it! 8 Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go for a walk." And when they were out in a field, Cain killed him.

God gives us a goal on how we can do our best.

2 Timothy 2:15 (New International Version)

15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

Hebrews 4:10-11 (New Living Translation)

10 For all who have entered into God's rest have rested from their labors, just as God did after creating the world. 11 So let us do our best to enter that rest. But if we disobey God, as the people of Israel did, we will fall.

Have you ever done your best for others?

1 Corinthians 10:33 (New Living Translation)

33 I, too, try to please everyone in everything I do. I don't just do what is best for me; I do what is best for others so that many may be saved.

Doing My Best by Faith

Ephesians 2:10 (Amplified Bible)

10 For we are God's [own] handiwork (His workmanship), recreated in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do those good works which God predestined (planned beforehand) for us [taking paths which He prepared ahead of time], that we should walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live].

Doing My Best

- fearless
- focused
- faithful
- filled with faith