



SONrise

Jan./Feb. 2008

**EMMAUS
NEWSLETTER**

... Strengthening the Local Church

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Are you giving God your best?

It was the first meeting I had with a new minister to our church. I was the contemporary worship leader and I wanted to bring the new minister "up to speed" on the service. I was talking about the history of the service, the basic order of worship, things we do well, things we continue to struggle with, etc.

The minister was "somewhat" attentive, but was more concerned with the following question:

*Are we giving our best to God?
...because we need to insure we're giving God our best.*

There was nothing "negative" in the tone – the statement was not directed to me or anyone in particular, it was an honest question (and a question we should all ask).

Are we giving our "best" to God?

The question stuck in my mind. You see, it would be very easy to answer that question for "most" aspects of my life. I've always tried to give my best to my family, and be the best husband and father I could be. And that is very apparent in the relationship I have with my wife and my daughter. I've always tried to give my best to my friends...to my work, and again, it is very apparent in my relationship with my friends, and my "success" at work.

But, do I give my best to God? ...or does God get what I have left AFTER I've given my best to my family, friends and work?

I believe that what make Emmaus so awesome is first, "God's Blessing" (I've said it many times, that God has clearly blessed what we do, and it's wonderful to be involved with something that we cannot mess up). But, second to that blessing; what makes "The Walk to Emmaus" work so well, is all these people, this "community", all giving God our very best.

One of my prayers for this community for 2008, is that we take this to heart, that we understand how huge this is...what we're doing here is SIGNIFICANT; eternally significant! We need to insure that we give our best in everything we do; with our hands and in our prayers; whether we're giving a talk, or loading the trailer; whether cleaning pans after a meal, or sponsoring someone on "The Walk".



What a great gift to complete the Christmas season.
What a great resolution for this New Year.
Let's give God our very best!!

***DeColores!
Matt***