**BA** 97212 10/12/1997 **SACRIFICE** 

Whenever someone starts talking about making a sacrifice I hope they are speaking of baseball! I enjoy doing the things I want to do and leaving alone the things I dislike. I like to be in control of my time, money, resources, and friends! Basically--everybody does. But Jesus calls us to deny self (Lk. 9:23), and that means we must be willing to make a sacrifice if we are to be His disciples.

Jesus is not asking for something He did not do Himself. We know, full well, that Jesus gave the ultimate sacrifice--His own life (Heb. 9:26). Therefore, in our following His example we must become living sacrifices (Rom. 12:1-2).

If your Christianity is not causing you to sacrifice something, it might be "high time" you rechecked your commitment! Ask yourself, "Do I sacrifice part of my wages for the Lord's work?" or "How much time outside of the worship services do I spend on spiritual things?" If we have everything in our life going our way, our life might not be going the Lord's way!

Now, let's get down to "brass tacks!" With our leaving at the end of this month, the Lake Land congregation will be missing teachers for 3 classes! This void must be filled, so who is willing to sacrifice to meet this need? Are you willing to offer yourself to the Elders as they continue on with the work of this church?

Make the sacrifice--you'll be glad you did and so will the Lord. Thanks!

-gls