

## ***Our Motive***

I was reading about a children's ministry project that handed out cards to the kids when the teachers noticed their good behavior. They collected the cards and received prizes for the good choices they've made. The goal was to reinforce good behavior rather than focusing on bad behavior. However, one time a teacher handed a card to an 11 year old, the student responded, "No thank you. I don't need one: I want to behave well on my own, and I don't need a reward for doing the right thing." For the student, doing the right thing was its own reward. The student definitely has good values and wants to live them out: prize or not!

As Christians to get a reward should not be our motivation for making the right choices and living right. Our love for God and pleasing Him should be our hearts desire. In all that we think, say and do should be used for serving God with pure motives as a good and faithful servant by helping our neighbor. The best reward will be to be with Him for all eternity!

***Together through prayer and service,***

***Deacon Mike***