



# NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

## Don't Do Things For The Lord

*All my young life, my parents took me to church. I accepted Christ as my Savior when I was a teenager. I studied the Bible with intensity and went to Christian activities. I never smoked, drank, use illegal drugs, or had inappropriate behavior. I went to a Christian college. Only dated Christian girls. I was involved with street evangelism and church visitation. I was a youth leader, college career teacher, camp counselor, church janitor, involved with children ministries for 10 years and held Bible studies at work. I ran sound and lighting in churches for 50 years. Wow, I did a lot of things for the Lord in my life.*

*However, April 29, 2014, I was within ten minutes of seeing the Lord in person. My heart went into total heart block. I was rushed to the hospital. I needed a special pacemaker, which arrived at the hospital just the day before. My pacemaker works 24/7. Without it, my heart would not beat. I was not afraid to die but I soon realized that the Lord had a special plan for me.*

*While attending a church meeting about the upcoming church Christmas play, the Lord moved my new heart to stop with this ministry. The next day, I resigned from the sound and lighting ministry which I had done for 50 years and had a college degree in. From that day on, I never entered a sound room or helped with the media ministry again.*

*I then wrote about my heart experience and that the Lord was trying to tell me something. I sent it to a few friends. One said that it was really good and that I should write another. Soon, I was writing more and was sending them to many. I was getting a blessing from them, and so were others. Nine years later, another organization started resending them around the world.*

*I could not believe this because since the first grade, I did very poorly in grammar and spelling. I even had to take special classes even in college, and I still cannot spell, write nor pronounce words correctly. So why did the Lord pick me to write devotions?*

*I believe it is because I am no longer working for the Lord, but He is using me despite myself. He is not using my abilities but my disabilities. I have been told by several that I have a special gift of writing. I could say that my past Christian works were because of my training and talents. But now, I tell them it is not me. I am just a willing pencil in His hand.*

*It took a total heart block to give me a new heartbeat. I had to stop just working for the Lord. I had to let Him work through me so that I cannot claim any credit. God does not need or want our abilities only our availability. Most people with my health condition do not last as long as I have.<sup>1</sup> He can use me as long as He likes. Is God working through you or are you just doing things for Him?*



<sup>1</sup>[onlinelibrary.wiley.com/](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/)

*Charles L Stambaugh Mt Wolf, PA*

*“But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;..That no flesh should glory in his presence.”*

*I Cor 1:27-29*



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