

# Commitment

Those of us who are fans of the movies have no doubt seen several movies with control panels for missile launches, rocket launches, or military action. In many of these movies, there is a switch labeled with the word "commit."

In the movies, and purportedly in real life situations these consoles were modeled after, "Commit" would indicate an irreversible action -- launch the missile, send the rocket, start the war. It was something that meant they burned their bridges behind them, and chose a course of action for the future. There was no turning back.

Frankly put, most of us need to make "commit" mean the same thing -- launch, blast off, start, -- with no means of turning back.

Altogether too often nowadays, the term "commitment" is merely assumed to mean a hollow promise -- a possibility that it might get done, someday, somehow, by someone.

But the true leaders of this world have always known that "commitment" is an all-or-nothing kind of thing. It's a no-holds-barred, burn all the bridges, get your butt in gear, never look back, decision -- to start on a course of action, and follow that course of action until your commitment is satisfied.

These half-hearted, wishy-washy promises aren't a real commitment -- they're just mere window dressing that carries with it not a "never-say-die" attitude, but a "maybe-do-it" attitude.

There's an old story about a man who wanted a bacon-and-egg breakfast. The chicken was all right with the idea -- all it took from her was a mere contribution; but the pig balked at the idea -- it required a total commitment from him.

In today's economy, or any economy, the answer to success is always the same: "find something worthwhile to do, and commit to doing it well, in a way that brings value to others, and consequently to yourself."

Commitment is more than just an attempt to do something -- it's an acknowledgment that we **will** do it, despite any challenges, come hell or high water.

It's a total commitment, not just a token contribution.

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