

Seriously Serious or Sober-minded?

You've heard of the expression 'dead serious', well that's how I've tended to be in the past. I'm very inclined to become too transactional, knowing that what I'm doing has weighty responsibility. However, I need to change so that even this facet of my character changes to align with the King's way of being.

I have been changing, but I need more changing.

For us, life in the Kingdom is serious business, but we've been instructed to think soberly¹. This means to be sober-minded², not to be very serious people. This Kingdom life isn't a game or something that's light-hearted because the fate of other people depends on us. We are part of the King's army so we need to be vigilant³ in keeping the enemy at bay. We're also his radical 'environmentalists', planet managers who are charged with being involved in The Restoration of All Things.

All this is serious stuff, but we can't get so serious that the peace, rest, joy and outgoing love of the Kingdom doesn't flow out of us and touch everyone we meet.

I'm working on this in my life right now.

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1 – The Greek work *sōphronēō* (σωφρονέω) actually means to be in our right mind, to be 'sound of mind', but also to 'exercise self-control' and to 'curb one's passions'. It's more about being mature, in relation to the responsibilities we carry.

2 – 1 Peter 1:13; 5:8; Romans 12:3; 1 Thessalonians 5:6, 8; (This is very important for overseers: 1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:8; 2:6)

3 – 1 Peter 5:8 (NKJV)