

Worship And Serve The Lord

- I. Have you noticed how much easier it is to describe the benefits of salvation than to describe the responsibilities that go with it.
 - **It's more exciting to emphasize blessings than to encourage obedience, to testify to miracles than to insist on selflessness.**
 - The mature Christian life requires a balance between blessing and obedience and between being served and serving.
 - **In this study I will answer these questions. What is a servant? What is my motivation for service? What is the outcome of my service.**
- A. What is a servant ?
 - **No one can help everybody, but everybody can help someone.**
 - Service can never become slavery to one who loves.
 - **Forget yourself for others, and others will not forget you.**
 - God measures our service, not by our ability, but by our willingness.
 - **Greatness lies not in trying to be somebody but in trying to help somebody.**
 - When you dig another out of his troubles, you find a place to bury your own.
 - **We should employ our passions in the service of life, not spend life in the service of our passions.**
 - We are pardoned from sin, but we are not excused from service.
 - **Greatness is not measured by how many servants you have but by how many people you serve.**
1. Serving is the joy of giving yourself to that which will bless another.
 - a. **Galatians 5:13, "You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love." NIV**
 - b. Paul in Philippians 2:4-8 speaks about Jesus who laid aside His rights and privileges as God's equal and became a servant.
 - c. **Jesus is a pattern for us. Paul exhorts us to have His mind, His attitudes, His motives and His actions within us**
2. Jesus set the example by serving His Father's interest. Mark 10:45
 - a. **Most Christians have interpreted this to mean that Jesus came to serve us. John 8:29**

- 1) He served the Father. His whole life oriented around the Father's pleasure.
- 2) **He didn't serve His disciples. He taught them to serve Him.**
- 3) *"you go get the donkey, you go pay the tax, you go get the upper room ready."*

b. He was training them to serve Him while He served the Father.

3. Serving is orienting yourself around another individual's good; it is giving yourself to that which will bless another. Romans 15:1-2 - 1 Corinthians 10:24 & 33

B. What is my motive for serving?

1. Motives and attitudes, which are very similar, could be defined as follows: Motives are why I act the way I do. Attitudes are why I react the way I do.
 - a. **Motives are those things which motivate me to action (or non-action)**
 - b. "Motive" is derived from the same word as "motor," and like motors, motives make us go.
2. **Worship is our motivation to serve. Matthew 4:8-10 - Its interesting the way Jesus replied, He gave a two-fold answer.**
 - a. Worship is designed to motivate us to serve - most of us come into worship trying to find God in order to get something from Him, but if that isn't changed into to wanting to do something for Him then we really haven't entered into real worship. Psalm 37:4
 - b. **If worship is in your lives, your service will flow naturally from it, in fact you can't divorce your service from your worship.**
 - c. Jesus knew whatever we worship we will serve. You can see what people worship by what they serve.
 - d. **You can tell when you are in His presence, because you won't want anything, instead you will want to give or do something**
 - 1) The mount of Transfiguration - Matthew 17:1-8
 - 2) **The day of Pentecost - Acts 2:37**
 - 3) Paul on the road to Damascus - Acts 9:6
 - 4) **The 24 elders and their crowns - Rev. 4:4-11**

3. Most Christians find joy in worshiping, but very few find joy in serving. Its my contention that the joy you find in worshiping is designed to equip you for serving.
Psalm 100:2 - Deut. 28:47
4. **You can always tell the real worshipers because they are the ones who are always serving.**

C. What is the outcome of my Service?

- **You will serve what you worship and you will change into the image of that which you serve**
 - If you worship money, you will serve it and in serving it, it will shape what kind of person you become. Pleasure - Entertainment - Sports - etc.
1. **Serving will change you because serving will deal a death blow to your pride.**
Psalm 138:6 & James 4:6
 2. Serving will decentralize self.
 - a. **A proud man won't serve unless it serves his purpose**
 - b. A humble man will serve because it will serve the purpose of God.
 3. **1 Peter 5:5-6 - Serving is a way to humble yourself in order to receive the Grace that will eventually cause you to be exalted. Lets look in the Bible at some proud men and see the process the Lord used to change them:**
 - a. Jacob - Joseph - Moses - David
 - b. **Genesis 46:3 - is the way God teaches his people to be great.**

There is no higher status in the Kingdom of God than that of a Servant.

The Spirit of serving as presented by Jesus is the greater serving the lesser without personal gain.

A servant will be chosen to do great things - Matthew 22:14

Only servants are made great because only servants can be entrusted with the greatness of God.