

Serve @Full Capacity

Serving Like Jesus

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Introduction:

“Elvis never came to terms with who he was meant to be or what his purpose in life was. He thought he was here for a reason, maybe to preach, maybe to serve, maybe to save, maybe to care for people. That agonizing desire was always with him and he knew he wasn’t fulfilling it. So he’d go on stage and he wouldn’t have to think about it.”

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:10)

“Your hands shaped me and made me.” (Job 10:8a)

God uses five things to *Shape* you for *Service*. They are... **Spiritual gifts... Heart... Abilities... Personality... & Experiences.**

“As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.” (1 Peter 4:10)

The only way you can ***Serve God is by Serving others.***

“in as much as you’ve done it unto the least of these, you’ve done it unto me.”

“You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you.” (John 13:13-15)

“It is not this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave; just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” (Matthew 20:26-28)

FIRST: Serving Like Jesus Means Being Available

“Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.” John Wesley

1. Self-Centeredness

“do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.”

(Philippians 2:4)

“It is amazing how much you can accomplish if you don’t care who gets the credit.”

Harry S. Truman

2. Perfectionism

First, waiting for perfect conditions before you serve

“He who watches the wind will not sow and he who looks at the clouds will not reap.” (Ecclesiastes 11:4)

Second, waiting until you can do it perfect before you serve

3. Materialism

*“No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You **cannot** serve both God and money.”* (Luke 16:13)

Everyone needs to make a decision... am I going to be a “*kingdom-builder*” by serving God or a “*wealth-builder*” by serving money.

SECOND: Serving Like Jesus Means Being Grateful

“So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, ‘Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me’” (John 11:41-42)

“Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth. Serve the LORD with gladness;” (Psalm 100:1-2a)

“Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe...” (Hebrews 12:28)

“Beware of practicing your righteousness before men to be noticed by them; otherwise you have no reward with your Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 6:1)

THIRD: Serving Like Jesus Means Being Faithful

“I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.” (John 17:4)

“It is finished.” (John 19:30)

What does it or will it take to motivate us to be faithful...?

Our faithful service makes a Difference

“Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.” (1 Corinthians 15:58)

Our faithful service brings eternal Reward

*“And whoever in the name of a disciple gives to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water to drink, truly I say to you, he shall not **lose his reward**.”* (Matthew 10:42)

*“But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and **your reward will be great**, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men.”* (Luke 6:35)

*“Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters on earth, not with external service, as those who merely please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men; **knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance**. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.”* (Colossians 3:22-24)

“Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!” (Matthew 25:21)