

# The Servant Spirit Part III      P. Joshua Brunette

## Pendleton First      06/23/2024

**Opening:** The character that is necessary to be a servant that will receive a full reward must be developed. The desire to serve may be present but the quality of our service can be strengthened as we learn and grow in Christ. Today let us examine the attributes of a good servant and how we can serve Christ in this place.

### 1. The Character of the Servant:

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:24-26** And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness.

- a. Is Gentle **Galatians 6:1**
- b. Is Flexible and willing to adapt **1<sup>st</sup> Kings 19:21** Elisha burns his yokes to stop the way of return to follow Elijah
- c. Is Humble **Philippians 2:8**
- d. Is Teachable **James 3:13**
- e. Is unoffendable. **Proverbs 19:11**
- f. Is Faithful / Trustworthy **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 4:2**

### 2. Serving with the Right Motive:

- a. A servant heart is not just about doing the request but is about having the right heart while doing it. Are you an easy person to work with only when you agree with the direction? Why is this important? How can we serve those we disagree with?
- b. **Amos 3:3** How can two walk together unless they agree on where to go?
- c. **It is not enough to serve God we must also develop the same heart that God has. Judas served God but didn't possess the same heart. The internship is for transforming the servant as much as it is for the work that is being done.**
- d. **God wants us to share in His joy, the joy he has in making people smile, have joy, find freedom ect.**
- e. **A new perspective:** When all is said and done in this time, we are living in the servant will remain. The world will fade away but the

one who does God's will, will remain. So, what is more valuable the work we accomplished, or the character God developed in the heart of one of His son's or daughters forever? I believe God is looking at the servant and not just the service.

- f. **Life Lesson:** God uses our service to transform us into the likeness of Christ.

### **3. The Standard has been set by Christ and His Apostles:**

- a. All the Apostles save John were martyred for their faith. If it comes to that, would you be able to serve God by giving your life?
- b. The Apostles were relentless in their mission.
- c. The Apostles were convinced they were following the truth. What is the truth? Jesus is God and His Kingdom is real and advancing.
- d. When the Apostles saw Jesus alive after death, they sold out completely. They believed, and went for the gospel

### **4. Authority and the Servant**

- a. The servant spirit does not wait for authority to serve but see's greater authority as bringing access for greater opportunities to serve.
- b. **Matthew 20:25-26 (Paraphrase) But Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, . . . . It shall not be this way among you.**
- c. **Life Lesson: The servant does not receive their value from their position instead in Christ the servant's value is secure in their adoption into the family of God.**
- d. If our value comes from what Christ has done and our relationship in God, then we can rejoice even when we fail in our assignments.
- e. **Life Lesson: You will fail at times in this life. You will stumble in your pursuit to serve others. Do not allow these failures to sidetrack you from continuing to run your race.**

### **5. Sufferings and the Servant**

- a. Is often misunderstood.
- b. Is taken advantage of
- c. Results may be delayed.

- d. Not always appreciated.
- e. May serve under difficult situations with difficult people.
- f. **Romans 8:17** And if we are children, then we are heirs: heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ--if indeed we suffer with Him, so that we may also be glorified with Him.
- g. **Life Lesson: The greater the sufferings the greater the reward!**

## 6. Surrender and the Servant.

- a. **Matthew 16:21-25** **21** From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day. **22** Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "God forbid *it*, Lord! This shall never happen to You." **23** But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not setting your mind on God's interests, but man's." **24** Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. **25** "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.
- b. It will cost you something to serve well. Jesus expects it, you cannot serve well with self-preservation. Serving others well is to give of yourself to help others.
- c. **Life lesson: Never forget that whatever you will lose as you serve Christ in this life you will receive back exponentially in the Kingdom to come. Your service is an investment in your eternal reward and the Kingdom pays eternal dividends.**

## 7. How can we serve in our Church?

- a. We need Ushers on Sunday morning to help take up offering, serve communion, help guests to their seats, assist in altar service.
- b. We need cheerful, friendly greeters to welcome our guests and church family and provide a set of notes, assist in setting up refreshments on Wednesday's & Sunday morning.

- c. We need people with a love for children ages 5-10 to help in our children's programs, by helping to set up, tear down, teach, lead a game, lead a craft time, and provide adult supervision for the kid's ministry.
- d. We need nursery workers to help care for our children ages 0-4 during service times. If we have a rotation of willing servants, then we can ensure our children are ministered to and no one gets overburdened.
- e. We need those who would like to learn audio, video, and media equipment to help run our Wednesday & Sunday morning productions.
- f. We need some people to connect with our online community by messaging them and responding to their prayer requests. These people are ministering to the congregation as an extension of the Pastor.
- g. We need altar, prayer, and salvation ministry workers to connect with people needing ministry during service times.
- h. We need people at various times who can help administratively in the church office.
- i. We need people who can help decorate the church interior and work with P. Joshua and the board to plan remodels of the church property.
- j. We need people who can help plant new plants in the flower beds and gardens of the church property.
- k. We need people who are seasoned and mature in the word of God, to teach and equip others by leading a small group lesson, or a life hour Sunday school class.
- l. We need Men and Women full of faith and love who will come alongside our Men's ministry leader and Women's ministry leader to help lead and coordinate ministry to other men and women.
- m. We need a special event team that can assist in set up and tear down, for church fellowship events and outreach events.

- n. We need additional worship leading gifts to work with our current worship team to help lead during special seasons of revival where we often have multiple services.
- o. We need, leaders to love and lead our youth in this church and community by helping to plan and lead a weekly youth gathering for ages 11-17.

**Close: A church is only successful to the degree its people are willing to fulfill Matthew 16:24- 25** 24Then Jesus told His disciples, “If anyone wants to come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. 25For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. let us remember it is better to give than to receive. Together we will be able to accomplish more than anyone ever thought possible and so continue to be a pure representation of love and Hope to the community of Pendleton and the surrounding region for God’s glory alone.