

IT'S MY Pleasure



REFLECT



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This Sunday Pastor Watley continues his sermon series entitled “It’s My Pleasure” as he encourages us to learn more about what it means to serve and the importance of serving. This week’s sermon title is “When God Goes VIP”. Pastor explains that the VIP area was created to make people feel special even while being in the same room. Pastor explains that VIP isn’t new; it goes back to the Bible times where Jesus gave several examples through various scriptures.



GOD GOES VIP

IT'S MY PLEASURE

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Pastor lists examples from the Bible such as **Matthew 26: 6 – 13**

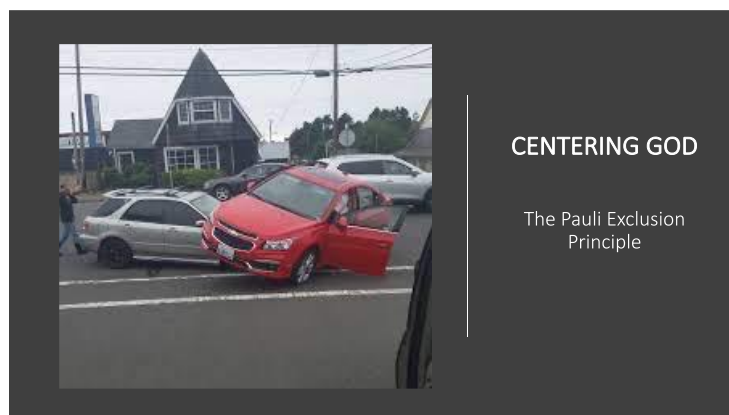
⁶ While Jesus was in Bethany in the home of Simon the Leper, ⁷ a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, which she poured on his head as he was reclining at the table.

⁸ When the disciples saw this, they were indignant. “Why this waste?” they asked. ⁹ “This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor.”

¹⁰ Aware of this, Jesus said to them, “Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me. ¹¹ The poor you will always have with you,^[a] but you will not always have me. ¹² When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. ¹³ Truly I tell you, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.”

Jesus made the point here that this woman was doing something special for him and it was right because He wasn't always going to be around. Special treatment, as Pastor labeled it, isn't bad and isn't new; “there is nothing new under the sun”, Pastor quotes Ecclesiastes 1:9. Based on the example above, Pastor notes that "serving" and "servanthood" aren't new.

However, the issue for some of us, is that we have made ourselves the center of the world and we don't look at serving as a pleasure or an honor. Pastor shares the below image on The Pauli Exclusion Principle:



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The Pastor explains that the Pauli Exclusion Principle is how many of us live our lives. We think we are the center but the goal should be that Jesus is the center, Jesus is the focus. Instead of Theology, the study of God, Pastor shares we are more focused on Me-ology. When we're focused on Me-ology, it's like the image of the car accident, both cars can't be in the same place at the same time. For us to have this focus we need to die to ourselves as Pastor shares and live for Christ. Pastor gives two great examples of service focused companies.

Mark 10:35-40

³⁵Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do for us whatever we ask."³⁶"What do you want me to do for you?" he asked. ³⁷They replied, "Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory."³⁸"You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said. "Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?"

³⁹"We can," they answered Jesus said to them, "You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with,"⁴⁰but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared."



Both Chick-Fil-A and The Ritz Carlton serve well because serving is part of their DNA. Serving and service is part of what they do and what they rate themselves on. Serving doesn't make you less than the other person it actually shows you the true value of your role in Christ. Pastor Watley shares this scripture about the disciples trying to get a high position and Jesus helps them understand that the highest position is actually linked to their submission.

It's My Pleasure
to Serve You



Ladies and Gentlemen
Serving Ladies and
Gentlemen



THE RITZ-CARLTON

IT'S MY *Pleasure*



Jesus explains that even he didn't come to be served, but instead He came to serve and give His life as a ransom for many. If Jesus came to serve and not be served what makes us think we're better?

Mark 10:31-45

⁴¹When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John.
⁴²Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ⁴³Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."





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1. RESPOND

Introspective Questions

- i When have you recently served because you knew it was part of your role in the Kingdom?
- ii What habits can you put in place this week to make sure that your focus is on serving others?

Discussion Questions

- i What do you think the disciples thought when they realized that Jesus was sent to serve them?