

Reedy Fork Baptist Church

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

BIBLE STUDY

Theme: "A Servant's Heart"

SCRIPTURE IN RESPONSE: Luke 17:1-10

¹ "Jesus said to his disciples: Things that cause people to stumble are bound to come, but woe to anyone through whom they come.

² **It would be better for them to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around their neck than to cause one of these little ones to stumble.**

³ So watch yourselves, "If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them."

⁴ **Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying, 'I repent', you must forgive them,"**

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"

⁶ **He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you.**

⁷ Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'?

⁸ **Won't he rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'?**

⁹ Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do?

¹⁰ **So you also, When you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'"**

I. Key Words:

- Servant
- Heart
- Faith
- Mustard Seed

II. People, Places, & Time:

- Jesus
- Disciple

III. Background:

Luke 17:7-10 is the Parable of the Unprofitable Servant, teaching that believers should serve God with total humility and obedience, seeing themselves as merely doing their duty without expecting special thanks or reward, because God's grace isn't earned but given freely, and our service is simply fulfilling our obligation as His servants. Jesus uses the analogy of a master whose slave works in the fields, then serves the master's meal before resting, concluding that the master wouldn't thank the slave, and likewise, believers should feel they've only done what was commanded.

IV. In Depth:

1. Lesson Emphasis #1: Servant-Master Relationship.

The core message is that believers are God's servants (doulos in Greek), not masters; our duty is to serve Him, not the other way around.

2. Lesson Emphasis #2: Humility & Duty:

We should serve God diligently without self-congratulation or expecting personal glory, recognizing our service is a response to His grace, not a way to earn it.

3. Lesson Emphasis #3: Unearned Grace.

God's blessings and favor are unmerited; we don't obligate Him by our good works, just as the master didn't owe the slave a meal after the slave completed his work.

4. Lesson Emphasis #4: Unprofitable Servants

After doing all commanded tasks, we should say, "We are unprofitable servants; we have done only what we ought to have done"

V. Make It Happen

- What does the word servant mean?
- What is the relationship between the master and the servant?
- Why is the master servant relationship so important on this Christian journey?
- What is required to become a faithful servant?
- How do we become profitable servants?

VI. Follow the Spirit:

What will you do as a result of this lesson?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on the right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.