

Our Heart is to be sincere and humble followers of Jesus, people who love God, and people who really love people. We want to minister the same way Jesus ministered.

Recap Last Weeks Message: Love God & People By Choice In Every Single Thing You Do!

- **1 John 4:12(NLT)** ¹²No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us.
- **1 Corinthians 16:14 (NLT)** ¹⁴And do everything with love.
- **Matthew 24:10–12 (NLT)** ¹⁰And many will turn away from me and betray and hate each other. ¹¹And many false prophets will appear and will deceive many people. ¹²Sin will be rampant everywhere, and the love of many will grow cold.

Title: Serve People & Build Relationships

Galatians 5:13–14 (NLT) ¹³For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love. ¹⁴For the whole law can be summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Matthew 20:25–28 (NLT) ²⁵But Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. ²⁶But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, ²⁷and whoever wants to be first among you must become your slave. ²⁸For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."

I. Serve People

(Because we Have Received Love, Really Know The God of Love, and Clothe Ourselves in Love, We Serve, and As We Serve, We Do It in a Loving Way!)

Matthew 25:31–46 (NLT) *The Final Judgment*

³¹"But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne. ³²All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left.

³⁴"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was

thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. ³⁶ I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'

³⁷ "Then these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? ³⁹ When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

⁴⁰ "And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!'

⁴¹ "Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, 'Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons. ⁴² For I was hungry, and you didn't feed me. I was thirsty, and you didn't give me a drink. ⁴³ I was a stranger, and you didn't invite me into your home. I was naked, and you didn't give me clothing. I was sick and in prison, and you didn't visit me.'

⁴⁴ "Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and not help you?'

⁴⁵ "And he will answer, 'I tell you the truth, when you refused to help the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were refusing to help me.'

⁴⁶ "And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous will go into eternal life."

If we are really Christians, we serve people in need.

John 15:1–2; 5 (NLT) *Jesus, the True Vine* "I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn't produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more....

⁵ "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit.

- When some things are combined, good things, or "fruit" just happens.
- A fruit tree planted over time in the right conditions produces fruit.
- Seed combined with soil, sunlight, warm temperatures, and moisture produces fruit multiplied.
- People actually connected with Jesus causes fruit. Fruitful people serve others!
- Your life is like a seed. Will you keep it, and therefore lose it? Or will you sacrifice it and live, as well as see much fruit come from it?

John 12:23–26 (NLT) (Blue are comments inserted) ²³ Jesus replied, "Now the time has come for the Son of Man to enter into his glory. (Its time for me to go to the cross) ²⁴ I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels—a

plentiful harvest of new lives. (Practical - a wheat kernel needs to be sacrificed if you wish for it to produce a multiplication of blessing by being multiplied into many kernels; Metaphor – Jesus going to the cross produces many salvations and blessings) ²⁵ Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity. (If you refuse to surrender to Jesus or lay your life down, you will not have eternal life. But if you do surrender to Jesus and lay your life down, you will have eternal life) ²⁶ Anyone who wants to serve me must follow me, because my servants must be where I am. And the Father will honor anyone who serves me.

Verse 24 is about us too. If we want to serve Jesus, we must follow Him by also sacrificing our desires and life. When we serve others, we produce a plentiful harvest of multiplication by our surrendered life!

Luke 10:30–37 (NLT) *Parable of the Good Samaritan* ³⁰ Jesus replied with a story: “A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road.

³¹ “By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by. ³² A Temple assistant walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side.

³³ “Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. ³⁴ Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, ‘Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I’ll pay you the next time I’m here.’

³⁶ “Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?” Jesus asked.

³⁷ The man replied, “The one who showed him mercy.”

Then Jesus said, “Yes, now go and do the same.”

How Do I Consider Moving Into Serving Others:

1. Fill The Needs You See
2. Actively Look For Needs You Can Fill
3. Help Those Already Working
4. Give Time, Funds, and Stuff as God Directs
5. Help With Food Programs, Missions, and Ministries
6. Help Prepare for Church Services, Workdays, and Community Projects
7. Volunteer in the Community

Serve in Love, Unity, Humility, and in Submission to Leadership

Practical Service

- ⇒ Everything you see being done at CCF, we usually need more people doing it.
- ⇒ We need more leaders, which is developed by joining existing leaders.
- ⇒ We need more teams and team members to set up, clean up, greet, pray, minister.
- ⇒ Some people if they were replaced would move to other assignments that broaden the ministry.