

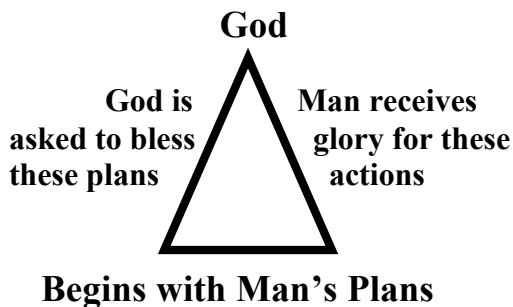
**Servanthood**  
**The Way of a Servant**  
 Sunday Evening Bible Study  
 May 15, 2016

**Service as Part of Kingdom Life: Two Methods of Service.**

1. Our plans, according to our way, done in our time.
  - a) Doing something for the Lord and expecting others to do something as well.
  - b) Making things happen according to our plans.
  - c) Coordinating the Lord's schedule to fit our plans.
  - d) Keeping busy with very little time for the Lord.
  - e) Complaining to the Lord about his care and the service of others.
  - f) Fulfilling our duty, even if relationship suffers.
  - g) Abraham lived life like this sometimes (Genesis 16).
2. God's plans according to God's will, done in God's way.
  - a) The Lord is primary.
  - b) Entering into the Lord's presence and listening to him.
  - c) Resting in his care and allowing him to refresh you.
  - d) Knowing the Lord's unconditional acceptance and resting from fear.
  - e) Become a child of his and resting in His protection.
  - f) Serve the Lord out of a deep love.
  - g) Do the Lord's will out of an overflow of his presence.
  - h) David lived life like this sometimes (2 Sam. 5:17-25)
3. An Example of God Centered Servanthood vs. Man Centered Servanthood:  
 Luke 10:38-42

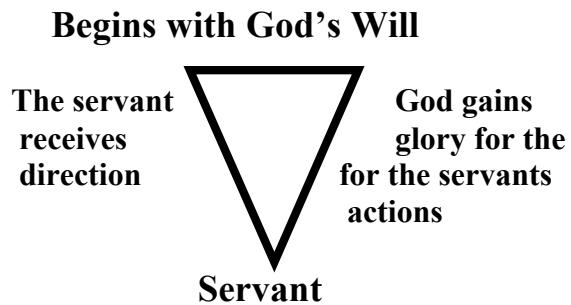
**Martha**

*A frustrated servant*



**Mary**

*A satisfied servant*



## The Elements of Service

1. Servants seek guidance from the Lord.
  - a. The wisdom and knowledge of God is great, we should not try to outguess the Lord.
  - b. *“When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.”* John 10:4
  - c. As much as we are willing to listen to our Lord, he directs us in what we are to do for him. (Matthew 25:28-30)
2. Servants allow divine resources to flow through them.
  - a. As stewards we simply give to others from the Master’s great supply as they have needs. (Joseph)
  - b. We are distributors not manufacturers; therefore we are not dependent upon our own resources.
  - c. God uses our talents, personalities, training, etc., but without his grace those things can become liabilities and hinder our usefulness to God.
  - d. If you can explain what has taken place, then God didn’t do it.
3. Servants become loving vessels.
  - a. Our service to others must be motivated by love for them.
  - b. Service based on duty and not out of an overflow of Jesus love, will not glorify God. (2 Cor. 5:14-15).
  - c. We are not passive vessels, when God works through us we receive great blessing and God receives great glory.
4. Servants reach out in response to human need.
  - a. When Jesus ministered on the earth, he spent a great deal of time meeting human needs.
  - b. God calls us as servants to meet the needs of others. We are the representatives and servants of the king. (Matthew 25:34-40)
  - c. Christian response to human need is not just humanitarian aid, it also involves them knowing the Lord, so that they can break the cycle of poverty, addiction, etc.
5. Servants seek glory only for the Lord.
  - a. If our motive for serving is anything but for the glory of God, what we do will only be a religious activity.
  - b. *“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”* 1 Corinthians 10:31
  - c. God is glorified when people see God through our service. (Matthew 5:16).
  - d. Real Christian service produces fruit and not results. Fruit comes as a result of God working through the life of the servant. Results come from charisma, programs, manipulation, or legalism.