

**Servant Hood**  
**The Character of a Servant**  
Sunday Evening Bible Study  
May 8, 2016

**Service and Servitude**

1. What is a servant? *“One who serves another, a person employed for domestic or personal work.” Webster’s Dictionary*
2. Our society and the lack of service and the self serve society.
3. The “Downton Abbey” effect.
4. A society of rights without responsibility.
5. How do we act when someone treats us as a servant? At work? At school? By a coach? In our marriage?
6. Do we see ourselves as truly servants in the kingdom?

**Why be a Servant?**

1. It was the Way of Jesus
  - a. *“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many.” Mark 10:45*
  - b. *“My food is to do the will of Him who sent me.” Luke 22:27*
  - c. *“I do not seek my own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.” John 5:30*
  - d. *“Abba. Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from me, nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will.” Mark 14:36*
2. Jesus is the Model for our Lives.
  - a. It was the desire of the Father. Romans 8:28-29
  - b. It is the desire of the son. John 13:13-17
  - c. It is the desire of the Holy Spirit. Philippians 2:5-8

**The Characteristics of a Servant**

1. The Word of Relationship: pais: “son or servant” (depending on context)
  - a. *“At that time Herod the tetrarch heard the report about Jesus and said to his servants. “This is John the Baptist: he is risen from the dead, and therefore these powers are at work in him.” Matthew 14:1-2*
  - b. *And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him, and the boy was healed instantly.” Matthew 17:18*
  - c. *Behold, My Servant whom I have chosen, my beloved with whom my soul is well pleased...” Matthew 12:18a*
  - d. We are in a child like relationship to our heavenly Father.
  - e. The wisdom of our heavenly Father is greater than our own. (James 1:5)
  - f. As good children we give full obedience to God’s commands, which ultimately bring him glory. (Romans 8:28)

2. The Word of Responsibility: oikonomos: “steward”
  - a. *“And the Lord said, Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom his master will set over the household, to give them their portion of food at the proper time.”* Luke 12:42
  - b. *“This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christa and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy.”* 1 Corinthians 4:1-2
  - c. The literal translation for “oikonomos” it is a compound word: “oikos” meaning house and “nemo” meaning manage.
  - d. Joseph is a prime example of a steward or house manager. Gen. 39: 1-6
  - e. The steward gives of the Master’s resources when they are needed.
  - f. The steward is faithful to their master and the tasks assigned to them.
3. The Word of Activity: diaknos: “deacon, servant”
  - a. *“But Jesus called them to him and said. You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant and whoever would be first among you would be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”* Matthew 20:25-28
  - b. *“And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said. It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty.”* Acts 6:2,3
  - c. The literal translation for “diaknos” it is a compound word: “dia” meaning through and “konis” meaning dust. The idea is the servant moves so quickly they leave a trail of dust in their wake, in service to their master.
  - d. The servant follows and obeys the master immediately, without question.
  - e. Servant hood is the path to blessing.
  - f. *“Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give up in return for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.””* Matthew 16:24-27
4. The Motto of God’s Servant
  - a. It is my business to do the will of God.
  - b. It is God’s business to take care of me.
  - c. Therefore, I do not fear anything.