



Searching Outside Yourself To Help Others

Volume 39 - 10

## Monthly Newsletter

October - 2022

This month, I want to teach on **“A Disciple And His Service.”** Have you noticed how much easier it is to describe the benefits of salvation than to describe the responsibilities that go with it. It’s more exciting to emphasize blessings than to encourage obedience, and to testify to miracles than to insist on selflessness. The mature Christian life requires a balance between blessing and obedience and between being served and serving. In this article I will answer these questions. What is a servant? What is my motivation for service? What is the outcome of my service?

Before I do that, I want to talk a little about hearing a Word from the Lord, and then go through the process of trying to walk out what we have heard. Life changing truth depends not only on an anointed teacher of God’s Word, but also on anointed ears. What causes someone to have anointed ears? It is a willingness to obey what you hear, before you hear it. **Mark 4:9** states, **“And He was saying, ‘He who has ears to hear, let him hear.’”** The Greek word for **“hear”** is **“akouo (ak-oo'-o),”** which is defined as **“to come to know in such a way that it produces understanding, which then pro-**

# DISCIPLE

BE ONE. MAKE ONE.

## Part Five

**duces a response.”** In other words, it is hearing that produces a response or obedience; you haven’t really heard the **“Word”** until you respond to it. These are the kind of anointed ears that Jesus is after in all of our lives. **Isaiah 50:4-5** also communicates this truth, **“The Lord God has given me the tongue of disciples, that I may know how to sustain the weary one with a word. He awakens me morning by morning, He awakens my ear to listen as a disciple. The Lord God has opened my ear; and I was not disobedient, nor did I turn back.”** God will awaken our ears to listen, if we have already settled in our hearts that whatever we hear we will obey. In the New Testament, John witnesses to this truth when it says in **John 7:17**, **“If any man is willing to do His will, he shall know of the teaching, whether it is of God, or whether I speak from myself.”** A lot of Christians say, **“Lord let me know Your**

**will, then I will tell You if I am willing to do it.”** God is not interested in us evaluating His will, His interest is only if we are willing to do His will. It is the willingness to do His will that will cause you to know

(hear) His will. If you are willing to obey the command before the command comes, then the command will come. If you are willing to do what God wants to reveal to you, before He reveals it, He will then reveal it. It is the readiness to obey that attracts the revelation. A willingness to act, before He speaks is what attracts the voice. The people God spoke to in the Bible heard Him because it was in their heart to obey Him. It didn’t matter how foolish or stupid it sounded. In **2 Samuel 5:22-25**, God tells King David to go and listen for the sound of marching in the top of trees before he engaged the battle. Because he was willing to do whatever God said, God spoke and he obeyed.

To hear and not obey causes what you hear to become **“idle words.”** Most people think an idle word is when

*(continued on page 2)*

you speak carelessly or gossip about someone. The dictionary definition of “idle” is “not working or active; unemployed, not spent to produce something.” An “idle word” is a word that you heard, but never employed or spent to produce what you heard. **Matthew 12:36-37** out of the Amplified Bible substantiates this, “*But I tell you, on the day of judgment men will have to give account for every idle (inoperative, nonworking) word they speak. For by your words you will be justified and acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned and sentenced.*” The Wuest translation also communicates this concept, “*moreover, I am saying to you, Every word which men shall speak which has no legitimate work, which is inoperative and thus morally useless and unprofitable, they shall give account of at the day of judgment.*” **John 14:10** out of the Message also communicates this, “*the words that I speak to you aren’t mere words. I don’t just make them up on my own. The Father who resides in me crafts each word into a divine act.*” The “Words” which we hear, but don’t allow the Spirit to craft into a divine act are “idle words,” that we will have to give an account for.

What I am about to teach comes from 50 years of trying to walk out the truth of the following scripture. **Mark 10:42-45** that states, “*And calling them to Himself, Jesus said to*

*them, you know that those who are recognized as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them; and their great men exercise authority over them. But it is not so among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant; and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be servant of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.*” I received this truth while I was in prison. Prior to becoming a Christian, I was an extremely selfish individual. I thought the whole world revolved around me, and I gave no thought on how my actions affected others. The truth of this scripture changed all of that. I saw that true greatness came through serving God by serving others. I immediately began to employ this scripture in my life, so that it wouldn’t become an “idle word.” Whatever greatness people may see in me or in the ministry that I oversee is a result of learning to become the “servant of all.”

What Is A Servant? Here are some one-liners about becoming a servant. No one can help everybody, but everybody can help someone. Service can never become slavery to one who loves. Forget yourself for others, and others will not forget you. God measures our service, not by our ability, but by our willingness. Greatness lies not in trying to be somebody, but in trying to help somebody. When you dig another out of his troubles, you find a place to bury

your own. We are pardoned from sin, but we are not excused from service. Greatness is not measured by how many servants you have, but by how many people you serve.

Serving is the joy of giving yourself to that which will bless another. **Galatians 5:13** states, “*You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love.*” Paul in **Philippians 2:4-8** speaks about Jesus, who laid aside His rights and privileges as God’s equal, and became a servant. Jesus is a pattern for us. Paul exhorts us to have His mind, His attitudes, His motives and His actions within us

What Is My Motive For Serving? Motives and attitudes, which are very similar, could be defined as follows: Motives are why I act the way I do. Attitudes are why I react the way I do. Motives are those things that motivate me to action or non-action. “Motive” is derived from the same word as “motor,” and like motors, motives make us go.

Worship is our motivation to serve. The devil knew this and one of his tests was to try and get Jesus to worship him. **Matthews 4:8-10** states, “*Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world, and their glory; and he said to Him, All these things*

*will I give You, if You fall down and worship me. Then Jesus said to him, Begone, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.'* It's interesting the way Jesus replied, He gave a two-fold answer. First He said He would only worship God, and secondly that He would only serve God.

Worship is designed to motivate us to serve. Most of us come into worship trying to find God in order to get something from Him; but if that isn't changed into wanting to do something for Him, then we really haven't entered into real worship. David understood this when he said in **Psalm 40:8**, *"I delight to do Thy will, O my God."* David knew that doing God's will (serving Him and others) is the most delightful thing there is in life. If worship is in our lives, our service will flow naturally from it, in fact we can't divorce our service from our worship. Jesus knew whatever we worshiped we would serve. We can see what people worship by what they serve. We can tell when we are in His presence, because we won't want anything, instead we will want to give or serve in some way.

What Is The Outcome Of My Service? You will serve what you worship, and you will change into the image of that which you serve. Serving will change you because serving will deal a deathblow to your pride. **Psalms 138:6** states, *"Though the Lord is exalted, yet He regards the lowly; but the haughty He knows from afar."* And **James 4:6** states, *"But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."* Serving will decentralize self. A proud man won't serve unless it serves his purpose; a humble man will serve because it will serve the purpose of God.

**1 Peter 5:5** states, *"You younger men, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."* Serving is a way to humble yourself in order to receive the Grace that will eventually cause you to be exalted. Let's look in the Bible at some proud men, who when they were younger served older men and see the process the Lord used to change them. Jacob served his uncle Laban and was so thoroughly changed that he was given a new name, Israel. Joseph first served his father, then as a slave served his owner, then served his jailor and fellow inmates when he was sent to prison unjustly. This process produced greatness in him, to the point that Pharaoh recognized it and made him the second most powerful person in Egypt. Moses served Pharaoh for forty years, then served his father-in-law for another forty years, which produced in him the greatness he would need to deliver a whole nation of people.

In closing, let me challenge you to take this Word on serving and begin to employ it in your life so that it won't become an *"idle word."*

*Jim Newsom*

### **Remember this ministry in your mission giving.**

If you can give, please make out your check to **"Outward Focused,"** then place your tax-deductible contribution in the envelope provided. You can also give through our website. The address is: **[www.outwardfocusedinternational.org](http://www.outwardfocusedinternational.org)**



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## Notes From The Newsom's From Diane's Desk

My trip to Florida to visit with my family went great. I was able to see all of my family, we had a wonderful time catching up and revisiting memories. I also got to meet my great niece, Mia. She is 7 months old, and such a sweet baby!

Ronan continues to like his new school. He loves that they learn and play in the 4-acre woods behind the school for part of the day. He has learned to climb trees, found box turtles and splashes around in the stream. Many days when I pick him up, he is covered in dried mud. He is definitely an adventurous boy!

We have two areas that we ask you to be in prayer about this month. First, Jim has a busy ministry travel schedule. That means there are many lives that can be impacted for the Kingdom. Pray with us that lives are touched and motivated to take the next step in their spiritual walk. Secondly, Jim has been having a lot of pain in his hand since having his surgery. We covet your prayers that God would correct whatever is causing this pain.



## Jim's Itinerary For October - 2022

**October 1 - Nashville, TN**  
Abundant Life Church Men's Retreat  
Charlie Bretz - (615)554-9085

**October 15-16 - Pittsburgh, PA**  
Lighthouse Cathedral  
Pastor Trent - (412)728-7552

**October 17-20 - Ephrata, PA**  
Refreshing & Reviving The Saints  
Jim Newsom - (502)593-7612

**October 21-23 - Somerset, PA**  
Somerset Correctional Institution  
Pastor Maust - (814)443-8100

*If you would like to schedule Jim to come speak at a school, prison, or church in your area, please call or e-mail Jim at the above number or address.*