JESUS Through the Eyes of Luke: Why Serve?

August 28, 2022

-A.M. SERMON NOTES -

"JESUS Through the Eyes of Luke: 'Why Serve?'"

(Luke 17:7-10; 22:27; Galatians 5:13)

INTRODUCTION

Our Bible studies focus on JESUS Through the Eyes of Luke, from Luke's Gospel and his Book of Acts. Every Sun- day we study and apply God's Word. Jesus tells an unusual story about how His authentic followers will be servants, answering our question, "Why Serve?":

I. The <u>reasons</u> to serve the Lord

A. Jesus <u>modeled</u> it (Jn. 13; Mk. 10:45; Lk. 22:27) B. God <u>commanded</u> it (Gal. 5:13; Eph. 6:7-8) C. The church <u>needs</u> it (Eph. 5:25a)

II. The <u>results</u> of serving the Lord

A. You are <u>humbled</u> by a connection with <u>God</u> (Mt. 25:40; Phil. 2:5-11) B. You are <u>fulfilled</u> by a connection to <u>ACC</u> (Acts 13:13) C. You are <u>encouraged</u> by a connection to <u>others</u> (Rom. 12:4-5) D. You are <u>rewarded</u> by a connection to the <u>lost</u> (Lk. 15:7, 10, 22-24) E. You are <u>satisfied</u> by a connection to spiritual <u>growth</u> (Mt. 5:16)

III. The refusal to serve is detrimental

A. Your spiritual <u>muscle</u> doesn't grow (Lk. 22:27) B. The <u>church</u> loses out (Lk. 17:7-8) C. You set yourself up to become <u>negative</u> (Lk. 17:9-10)

CONCLUSION

"For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves," Jesus said (Luke 22:27). Over and over Jesus said, "If you're going to follow Me, you will serve." Christians are not called to just have the title of Christian, but the lifestyle of Christ. With 168 hours every week, would you commit at least one each week to some type of service through the local church today?

-Applying Today's Sermon to Your Life -

 Our 2022 Bible studies focus on JESUS Through the Eyes of Luke, from Luke's Gospel and from his Book of Acts. Our Verseof-the-Week today is Luke 22:27, "For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not

the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves." Read

today's Bible text, Luke 17:7-10. Does Jesus sound harsh here? Why, or why

not? Read Luke 22:27. What is the proper attitude for Christian service?

2. Many claim they would like to serve the Lord, but are just too busy, too tired, or

it gets too frustrating working with people. But doesn't everyone get the same

number of hours in each new week? Why might some find time to serve while

others don't? And how does God use our relationships and connections with

people to shape and sharpen us as we serve together through thick and thin (Pr.

27:17)? Knowing that God uses your humble service through the local church to

shape you into the likeness of Jesus, what's your decision on this?

3. If everyone gave the local church the same amount of time serving as you, what

kind of shape would the local church be in today? Why?

4. Answer the following as TRUE or FALSE:

T / F In the church, I'm more an observer than a participant.

T / F There's no way I can get involved in the church.

T / F I'm just too unworthy to help or serve in any way.

T / F I'm trying to think of something I can do to help.

T / F I try to serve because Jesus modeled serving.

T / F God can use frustrations that serving can bring to develop us.

T / F A great way to make friends is to serve with groups of people.

T / F God cultivates humility in people through their humble service.

T / F The church needs me to find my unique way to participate.

- 5. I'd give my level of serving the church an: A B C D F (circle one).
- 6. How do people who worship in this church best connect with one another in

meaningful ways? Could it be through serving with one another?

7. Read John 13:1-17. What does this tell you about following Jesus' example? Are

you following in His steps with your lifestyle now? Isn't it time?

8. Imagine living today without faith, without knowing Jesus, without knowing how

to pray, and without a supportive church family. Now think about your neighbors,

your coworkers, your relatives, your classmates, your friends, and people in your

circle of acquaintance. Who needs your faith, your Jesus, your prayers, your

church family? Will you ask Jesus to make His appeal to them through you?

9. I will put today's Bible study into action now by: