

Living for Kingdom Impact

Part 2: Grateful Servants

Today's Question: What is your attitude about serving?

Passage Background: "The introductory word *but* indicates that Jesus was now going to balance one lesson with another. There was a danger that the Twelve might get so carried away with transplanting trees that they would ignore the everyday responsibilities of life! Faith that does not result in faithfulness will not accomplish God's work. It is good to have faith to do the *difficult* (Luke 17:1-3) and the *impossible* (Luke 17:4-6), but it is essential that we have faith to do even the *routine tasks* our Master has committed to us. Privileges must always be balanced with responsibilities."¹

Luke 17:7-10 (NKJV):

⁷ And which of you, having a servant plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and sit down to eat'? ⁸ But will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare something for my supper, and gird yourself and serve me till I have eaten and drunk, and afterward you will eat and drink'? ⁹ Does he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I think not. ¹⁰ So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do.' "

Living for Kingdom Impact-How to Start a "Servolution"!

Learning how to think like a grateful servant of the Kingdom:

Scripture Insight: *Servant: doulos:* This word means slave or bondservant; it is one who gives himself up to another for the purpose of service. Slave and master stand on two opposite spectrums-one has full rights and the other requires a full commitment. Christ Himself took upon himself the form of servant (Philippians 2:7).²

Contrary to folk wisdom of the day (and now), Jesus is clear that human obedience to God does not put God in debt to man. Jesus here gives a succinct picture of the attitude that should underlie our service to God.³

¹ Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). [The Bible exposition commentary](#) (Vol. 1, p. 244). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

² Info adapted from [Biblerefrence.com](#) and [blueletterbible.com](#).

³ Quote from King James Study Bible.

→ Jesus is going to argue for the lesser to the greater: If a common servant is faithful to obey the orders of his master who does not reward (thank) him, how much more ought Christ's disciples obey their loving Master, who has promised to reward them graciously!⁴

1. A grateful servant thinks of others first (v. 7).

2. A grateful servant doesn't take time off until the job is done (v. 8).

So how do we serve Jesus like a grateful servant?

- ✓ We serve Jesus with a P _____—Prepare my supper. Our purpose: To serve the King of kings. As we minister to the least of these, we minister to Jesus.
- ✓ We serve Jesus with P _____—Gird yourself. We are dressed and ready to serve as the Lord presents the opportunities.
- ✓ We serve Jesus with P _____—Serve me until I have finished dinner. We keep on serving until the job is done!
- ✓ We serve Jesus with P _____—Afterward you will eat and drink. A promise of rest and joyous renewal waits for the grateful servant of God.

3. A grateful servant doesn't look for praise or recognition (v. 9).

- A grateful servant doesn't look for a _____ on the _____.
- A grateful servant doesn't _____ becomes nobody said, " _____ you."
- A grateful servant doesn't loose _____ because he/she is really serving before an audience of _____!

Matthew 11:28-30; ²⁸ Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

4. A grateful servant shows _____ by doing one's _____ (v. 10).

- _____—not deserving of any special honor or respect; without need—that is, nobody owes you anything for service.
- The fact that Jesus will one day _____ us for our service is totally from His grace because He owes us nothing.

⁴ Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). [*The Bible exposition commentary*](#) (Vol. 1, p. 244). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

I Corinthians 9:16; For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel!

Postscript: *A P _____: You are both a _____ and a _____ at the same time!*

How to start a "servolution." 5 Practical applications for Kingdom Impact:

- ✓ Serve from your heart (Ephesians 6:6).
- ✓ Serve God out of delight, not out of duty.
- ✓ Serve the least of these as though you were serving Jesus.
- ✓ Serve like this will be the last opportunity you have to serve.
- ✓ Serve in the little things and watch God give you opportunities to serve in the big things!

Christ Connection: Since Jesus paid the price for my sins, I serve out of gratitude for all that He has done for me.

Today's Big Idea (A short summary): Grateful servants greatly serve an audience of One out of an attitude of gratitude.

Preview for next Sunday: "Need an Attitude Adjustment?" from Luke 17:11-19.



Put on your calendar: *Fall Launch* on September 8th. Invite an unchurched friend and take them out to lunch after church with your family. (If you don't have the funds to treat a guest for lunch, let us know, so we can help you with this outreach opportunity).