

Called to Service

CALLED TO SERVE

We are all called to God's service. If you are saved, you are called! To do the will of God is our greatest honor. We desire to be a people who stand in the presence of the almighty God, **listen** to His instructions, and **respond** with all of our heart and soul.

*"And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to **fear** the Lord your God, to **walk** in all His ways and **love** Him, and to **serve** the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, Deut 10:12 (written in 1400 BC)*

*Only fear the LORD and **serve** Him in truth with all your heart; for consider what great things He has done for you. 1Sam 12:24*

The devil offered Jesus all that the world had to offer:

*Again, the devil took Him along 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 I will give You, if You fall down and worship me." Then Jesus *said to him, "Go away, Satan! For it is written: 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND **SERVE** HIM ONLY.'"*

Notice that the devil never asked Jesus to serve him, but only to worship him. Jesus' response shows that **what we worship we also serve**.

*If anyone **serves** Me, he must **follow** Me; and **where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him. Jn 12:26***

*My sheep **listen** to My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; Jn 10:27*

*And He summoned the crowd together with His disciples, and said to them, "If anyone wants to come after Me, he must **deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Me.** -Mark 8:34*

*"No one can **serve** two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot **serve** God and wealth. Matt 6:24*

HOW WE SERVE THE LORD

Not by human effort or natural strength:

We recognize that the **grace** of God enables us to respond to His voice by turning our focus from **serving ourselves** to serving Him as we trust in the greatness and goodness of God. We need to guard our hearts since even our good works can be self-serving.

Our service cannot add to what God does; (He has already given us everything that pertains to life and godliness - 2Pet 1:3) it can only magnify who He is, spread His love to those around us, and express our gratitude for what He has done. Our focus will be to put God in the spotlight as we point others to Him by our demonstration of His love.

*The God who made the world and everything that is in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made by hands; **nor is He served by human hands**, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things; Acts 17:24-25*

When God is receiving glory from whatever we do or say, we are serving Him.

*Whoever speaks is to do so as one who is speaking actual words of God; whoever **serves** is to do so as one who is serving by **the strength which God supplies**; so that in all things*

God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. 1 Pet 4:11

Serving God is more about the heart attitude we have in **whatever** we put our hands to.

*...not lagging behind in diligence, fervent(to boil, be hot) in spirit, **serving** the Lord;
Rom 12:11*

***Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord and not for people, knowing that it is from the Lord that you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you **serve**.** Col 3:23-24*

*for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but **righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit**. For the one who **serves** Christ **in this way** is acceptable to God and approved by other people. So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another. Rom 14:17-19*

Serve the Lord with jubilation; Come before Him with rejoicing. PS 100:2

*My eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me; One who walks in a blameless way is one who will **serve** me. PS 101:6*

*For then I will restore to the peoples pure lips, So that all of them may call on the name of the Lord, To **serve** Him shoulder to shoulder. Zep 3:9*

True joy comes from serving God in whatever He calls us to do.

*Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?"
Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!" Isa 6:8*