



Valley Forge Baptist • March 30, 2025  
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## Lessons from the Mission Field (Part 2) Matthew 20:25-28

What makes you mad? Most people get angry when they feel like they have been treated unfairly or when they are criticized. What made the 10 disciples mad?

*"And when the ten heard it, they were moved with indignation against the two brethren."*

**Matthew 20:24**

What did James and John do? They just asked, "Jesus, can we sit on your right hand and left hand in your kingdom? We just want the highest place of honor, fame, and \_\_\_\_\_ in the kingdom!" The 10 disciples were so mad because that's what they wanted too – power and honor!

Jesus didn't lose His temper over their selfish request. He just patiently taught them an incredible truth about extravagant service.

Jesus taught them...

- 1) Unbelieving Gentiles exercise authority with force, v. 25.
- 2) You will not act like the unbelieving Gentiles, v. 26.
- 3) You will be a servant - a minister, v. 26b-27.
- 4) I want you to follow My example, v. 28.

***What does it mean to serve?***

It means to give of your time, your energy, your money, and your gifts to help someone else. Serving others is how we share the love of Jesus. Every Christian is to serve God in their local church but also look for opportunities to serve outside the walls of our church building.

The Bible makes it clear that, when a person is in a real relationship with God, he or she will serve God. We want to serve God because we love Him, Romans 8:29.

*"I have given you an example that ye should do as I have done to you,"*

**John 13:15.**

## 1. What Keeps us from Serving Others?

A. \_\_\_\_\_.

Since we all have a sin nature, we all have a bent toward loving ourselves and not others. We all prefer to be served.

B. \_\_\_\_\_ and a Critical Spirit.

Do you have a critical spirit? Unforgiveness and bitterness will keep you from serving because you want to avoid certain people. Some avoid family events because of "certain family members."

C. A Lack of \_\_\_\_\_

Until you become truly thankful, you won't serve Him. You don't deserve what you have. Everything you have God gave it to you.

D. Wrong \_\_\_\_\_

We need to learn to say "No" to the good and the better, so we can say "Yes" to the Best - which is serving God and others.

E. Not connected enough to even see the \_\_\_\_\_ of others.

If you don't come to church, or if you don't read the bulletin or Wednesday prayer lists, you will miss opportunities to serve.

## 2. What are the Commands to Serve?

*"Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another [putting others ahead of yourself]. Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord."*

**Romans 12:10-11**

*"Only fear the LORD, and serve Him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things He hath done for you."*

**1 Samuel 12:24**

*"For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another."*

**Gal. 5:13**

### 3. Who is our Example of Serving?

A. \_\_\_\_\_

*"And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."*

**Joshua 24:15**

B. \_\_\_\_\_

*"For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many."*

**Mark 10:45**

*"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men."*

**Philippians 2:5-7**

### 4. What are the Benefits of Serving?

A. *You will be happier and*  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Researchers have found that when we serve others our brain releases hormones like dopamine that makes us feel good and it improves our mental and physical health.

B. *Serving promotes a \_\_\_\_\_ atmosphere and eliminates negative attitudes.*

People who serve experience joy in their heart. Feelings of fulfillment dominate their thinking. When we serve there is a positive ripple effect on others.

C. *You will \_\_\_\_\_ others less and encourage them more.*

"The one who rows the boat has seldom time to \_\_\_\_\_ it."

### 5. What are the Rewards of Service?

When you serve others, you realize that your life is not about yourself. You are fulfilling the purpose for which God made you.

***What are the rewards of serving?***

\_\_\_\_\_ now and treasure in heaven!

*"If any man serve me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there shall also My servant be: if any man serve Me, him will My Father honor."*

**John 12:26**

*"For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister."*

**Hebrews 6:10**

What can you do? go to [www.valleyforgeconnect.org](http://www.valleyforgeconnect.org)

1) You can give \_\_\_\_\_.

Sign up as a SS teacher's helper, nursery helper, outreach ("3 things God Cannot Do" training will be on Wed), VBS will be here in under 4 months. The Hunt will be here in 3 weeks.

2) You can give \_\_\_\_\_.

We have all kinds of creative ministries from music, art, landscaping, and building. All kinds of projects from putting together furniture, to making trees for the treehouse, etc.

3) You can give \_\_\_\_\_.

All of those thousands of Easter eggs cost money. Social media ads cost money; gas, insurance, and maintenance for the buses.

4) You can give \_\_\_\_\_.

All of our talent, all of our planning, all of our skill is nothing without the power of God. The very moment we think "we are something special" and that good things happen because of us is the day that we fail.

Prayer is something every one of us can do every day. Pray for your church. Pray for your pastors. Pray for your spiritual and church leaders. Pray for God's power. Pray for protection and guidance and wisdom and God's favor.

Yes, God wants us to serve Him and others. To be effective, we need to get sin out of our life and anything else in our heart that grieves the Holy Spirit.

No amount of \_\_\_\_\_ will wash away your sins. You cannot earn God's approval or acceptance with good works. In fact, if you trust in your works to get you to heaven, you won't even make it.

*"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves. It is the gift of God. Not of works, lest any man should boast."*

**Eph. 2:8-9.**

**Write down 3 ways you are or can serve others?**

1)

2)

3)