



Valley Forge Baptist • November 2, 2025
Pastor Scott Wendal • swendal@vfbt.org

Am I Serving God? Actions and Attitudes of Serving God.

I Peter 4:7-11

Am I serving God? What does it mean to “serve God”? The word in our NT for serve is “diakoneo.” It refers to active, helpful service; ministering to someone’s need including hospitality. It is the same word for “deacon.” Deacons are “official servants.” Everyone is to follow their example. If you are a Christian, then you are a _____.

“And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all. 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 10:44-45

“For I have given you an example [of service], that ye should do as I have done to you.”

John 13:15

When am I to serve God?

Answer = 24/7 “always on duty.”

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”

Romans 12:1

Who is a Servant?

Answer - Every Christian!

Serving God is more than an action; it is who I am.

"Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ...."

Romans 1:1

"James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ...."

James 1:1

"Simon Peter, a servant of Jesus Christ...."

2 Peter 1:1

What is Serving God?

Answer – _____ I do for Jesus.

"And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward."

Matthew 10:42

1. Attitudes of Serving God

A. *An Attitude of* _____.

There are two coming judgments.

- Great White Throne Judgment – for Unbelievers, Rev. 20:11-15.
- The Judgment Seat of Christ – for Believers, 2 Cor. 5:10.

Jesus taught several stewardship parables about our accountability to God. They are stories that teach us to use our money, gifts, and abilities for God. There is always a reward for the good stewards and there is always punishment for the lazy and careless managers.

B. *An Attitude of* _____

Jesus taught in sermons and in parables about His imminent return. He said, "Be ready for the return of the Master." Jesus warned...

"...the evil servant shall say in his heart, 'My Lord delayeth his coming.'"

Matthew 24:48

The "apostles' doctrine [teaching]" (Acts 2:43) includes the Imminent Return of Jesus Christ.

What is the Imminent Return of Jesus Christ?

The return of Christ can happen at any moment. There is nothing more in Biblical prophecy that needs to happen before Jesus comes again.

"We are to interpret the Bible literally which means to explain the original meaning of the NT writer according to the normal, customary, and proper usages of words and language."

-Paul Tan, The Interpretation of Prophecy

What is the plain understanding of the apostles' teaching of Jesus return to the earth? His coming is imminent – at any moment. This is what they believed and this is what we believe.

One of the great motivations we have to worship, love, and serve God is that we could see Him today.

"Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come."
Matthew 24:42

"Looking [looking today] for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ."
Titus 2:13

"For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as thief in the night."
1 Thessalonians 5:2

"Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh [it is near]."
James 5:8

The normal understanding of the apostles' teaching for 300 years was this instruction... "Live everyday as if Jesus could return today."

2. Three Actions of Serving God

A. _____ *Love of brothers and sisters in Christ,*
 v. 8.

God commands us to love one another with a God-like supernatural love.

How to love difficult people:

- When you sin, repent and turn from it.
 - When someone sins against you,...
- 1) If it's a minor offense, let it go "love covers a multitude of sins."
 - 2) If it's a major offense, go with a meek spirit alone, Gal. 6:1
 - 3) Make new _____ with them.

How? Love your enemies, Matt. 5:44. Do good to them, Rom. 12:20. Pray for them. Don't just love them... love them with "fervency." It is a word that refers to a runner who stretches his muscles to the maximum output. It means to "give it your all; give it all you got." Give them a birthday card and gift. Write them an encouraging note. Compliment them. Be a "good finder" by encouraging them. Speak well about them before others.

4) DO NOT _____ TO OTHERS ABOUT YOUR HURT!

If someone spreads negative gossip about others, don't listen to them. Shut it down.

"The north wind driveth away rain; so doth an angry countenance a backbiting tongue."

Proverbs 25:23 (Try growling at them!)

B. Practice _____, v. 9

What is Biblical Hospitality?

"Receiving and treating guests and strangers in a warm, friendly, and generous way; the love of strangers." Hospitality is for the glory of God and the advancement of His Kingdom. How? By edifying saints and evangelizing unbelievers.

- 1) Pass out a Veterans Day Card this week:
- 2) Men's and Ladies' Night Speakers:
 - Retired Brigadier General John Teichard.
 - Retired Air Force Captain, Kathleen Schlichtmann

3. Use your Spiritual _____ to serve God, v. 10.

The moment you are saved the Holy Spirit enters your physical body. You can't see Him, but you can feel His presence. We can sense His presence with: a new peace, a new joy, new desires, and new guilt.

A. _____ Gifts, v. 11a

If you have the gift of teaching, use it to teach "the oracles of God" – the Bible.

B. _____ Gifts, v. 11b

We do not serve to get a ticket to heaven. We serve to say, "Thank you" to God that He saved us.

How do I get involved?

Go to www.valleyforgeconnect.org.

Does my small act of service make a difference? YES

You can do something! You can begin serving God – today!!! First step after being saved is to get baptized.

Sign up at www.valleyforgeconnect.org – Click on Baptism Sunday.

Baptism is a command, but it is only a step of obedience after you give your heart to Christ. Baptism _____ wash away sins or change your life. Jesus can do that for you today!