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In the last few weeks, we have considered some key aspects of Service for the Christian. As I round up the series, let us now consider the question: How do we Serve or what are the ways to Serve as a Christian? This question is just as important as the question about 'What is Service?' If we do not know what we are about to do, we also are not likely to know how it should be done. So, it is important that we link our discussion on the question of 'What is Service?' to the discussion for this week on 'How do We Serve?' The key verse for this week provides some direction for this question. There is an acceptable way to get things done so that one can be commended; and so, Service for the Christian must also be done in a particular way for it to be acceptable. The beginning point is to realize that Christian Service is to their Master Jesus Christ. Christians should therefore Serve as an Intentional act of Consecration and Sanctification to their Master, Jesus Christ. Consequently, Christians Serve as debtors, not because they can pay back the debt, but in deep appreciation, because they can never pay back the debt they owe to Jesus Christ for Saving, Redeeming, and Reconciling them back to the Almighty God as His children once again. Our sense of gratitude and appreciation increases because we are reconciled not just as children, we are also raised to the position of honour of sitting with Jesus Christ in the Heavenly realm far above all principalities and powers, with the additional benefit of glorious inheritance in the saints.²

Such a package deserves more than ordinary Service. If there is any situation where Service should be at the highest possible level, it should be in Christian Service. Therefore, Christian Service should be with Enthusiasm, Passion, Dedication, Commitment, and Faithfulness. As Apostle Paul admonished, the energy that was exerted in serving satan should be brought to serving Jesus Christ, and I would add, at a level never seen in any other circumstances. There is even a great motivation for doing this, because faithful and effective Service for the Christian leads to holiness and Eternal life.³ So, the reluctance and excuses by some Christians beg for explanation. As servants and debtors, though redeemed, Christians must see their life as Service because we have been commanded to **"Occupy Till I come"** and to live the rest of our life **'for Christ, who died and was raised for them.'** Furthermore, we have been reminded that doing good things – effective Service, is what God planned for us to do as our way of life. The Apostles and the early converts appreciated this fact, and lived a life of Service to Jesus Christ and their community despite persecutions and other challenges.⁴

Another way to Serve, is as an act of stewardship from faithful stewards. Christianity and Christian Service should be so exciting and interesting because the Christian is not left on his own to figure out what to do and how to do it. The Christian is endowed with everything needed to live a godly life, in addition to Precious and Magnificent Promises which enable them to share in the divine Nature of their Master, and also to escape the rottenness and corruption of the world, caused by lust and greed. **Our endowment is not to make us beautiful items kept on display in the museum, but for an active life which shows the grace and power of God through us to onlookers.** For this reason, Apostle Paul reminded Christians that accountability is required of Stewards/Servants. And Jesus underlined this point by telling Christians that when they have performed what is required of them, there should be no ground for pride, but unworthiness because we have only done our duty.⁵

In the fourth place, Christians should see Service as a Sacred Trust. This removes Service from the mundane state of serving when it is convenient, or when we evaluate a leader to deserve our Service. **No! The Christian has been entrusted with a Sacred responsibility and he must display accountability.** And so, Apostle Paul stated that we have received a Ministry/Service, and for him, necessity is laid on him to perform the Service. He was so committed to fulfilling this ministry that he stated that it will be a terrible thing for him [woe to him] if he does not perform the Service required of him. He went further to teach that each one of us have been given gifts/abilities, which should be used for the glory of the Master, and for the building/edification of members of the Body of Christ, the Church.⁶ Whereas these reminders, the life of the Apostles and early Christians, should challenge us to a life of accountability, this fact of the Christian life is not popularized today, and the result is a poor Christian life, and a mostly ineffective Church life and Ministry.⁷

If Christians realize that each one of us have a Sacred Ministry, then Service will be our way of life, as we are commanded, which was the key verse for last week's devotional. The impact of a life of Service should be clearly evident in our lives, not only on those occasions when we carry out a specific duty, but at all times. Apostles Peter and John were recognized even by those who wanted to kill them, as those who have been with Jesus



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Christ. This is what the Scripture means when it says we should live as Salt and Light in a corrupt and dark world so that people can see the good work of God in our lives and give God the glory. The Christian's life should carry and emit the sweet fragrance of the grace of God – the fruit of the Spirit, and the power of the Gospel, that will attract people to Christ or convict them of sin. This is one of the distinctiveness of the Christian life.⁸

With Service as a Way of Life, one should not be thinking of a position or an office before Service can be rendered. We Serve as we *visit one another to encourage and bear each other's burden; greet people cheerfully; care for one another, especially the infirm and elderly; show love by sharing of what we have including time; pray and intercede for the Church, members, and others; and other works of mercy.* These are acts of Service which should characterize the Christian's life, and they have the ability to touch and minister the Gospel to people easily and effectively.⁹ But they are often not appreciated and encouraged; instead, they are neglected for the prominent ministry offices, depriving the Church of her impact on people and the world in general. Seeing Service as a Way of Life or Lifestyle will also give the right perspective to our occupation and vocation, as they are seen as our act of Service to God. Excellence will therefore be the goal of whatever we do because ultimately, they are being done for the glory of the Almighty God.¹⁰

The Christian must take his bearing for life from the Lord Jesus Christ. He told us categorically that this is what we should do as His servants, since the servant is not greater than his Master. He demonstrated this attitude when He stated that He Must be about His Father's work while He was physically here on earth. He also quieted His detractors by stating that He was working because His Father works.¹¹ Consequently, Christians should not be cajoled or forced to Serve or work. Our unwillingness to Serve is an indication of a poor understanding of Christianity, how we were brought into the fold, and essentially an act of ingratitude. Christians should perform their occupation, vocation, and Service within the Body of Christ with such Enthusiasm, Dedication, and Commitment, which cannot be equalled by non-Christians. By so doing we become the reference point or bench-mark for what Service or work should be. This is one effective way of communicating the Gospel, without necessarily saying any word.¹² If the world around us is going to be positively impacted by the Gospel, we must rethink our attitude to Service and work, and remember that there may be no better way of being Salt and Light to the world. You have been saved to be Consecrated and Sanctified for Service to the Lord; to Bear Much fruit; to "Occupy Till I [Jesus] come;" to do the good things God planned for you to do as your way of life; and saved to be faithful stewards. This is your calling, and you have been equipped to be able to live this kind of life. To do otherwise means that you are not following the rules of the game, and it is a betrayal of the Sacred Trust entrusted to you. There is therefore the risk that you will not be commended and greeted with, 'Well done, My good and faithful servant,' and there may be no Crown awaiting you!¹³

Saved, No Longer To Live For Yourselves, But Consecrated And Sanctified For The Master!

Have A God Centred And Focussed 2026.

Further & Daily Readings: 2Tim.2:1-10; Eph.1:3-14. 1.2Tim.2:5; 2. Eph. 1:18-21; 2:1-6, 8-9; 3. Rom.6:19, 22; 1Pet.2:18-19; 4. Acts.5:17-18, 33; 8:1, 4; 2Cor.4:8-12; 11:23-29; 1Thess.1:6-10; 5. 1Cor. 4:1-2; Luke 17:10; 2Pet.1:3-4; 6. 1Cor.9:17-18; 2Cor.4:1-2, 5; Eph.4:12-16 7. Rom.2:17-24; 8. Matt.5:13-16; 2Cor.2:14-16; Eph.2:10; Gal.5:22-23; 9. Matt. 25:35-36, 40; 1Pet.3:8-17; 10. 1Chron.4:23; Col.3:22-24; 11. Jn.5:16-17,9:4-5; 13:15-17; Col.3:1-2; 12. 1Thess.1:6-10; 13. 2Tim.2:5; Matt.25:23, 31-34; 2Tim.4:8.