

# BORN TO SERVE

*Ephesians 2:10 (niv) We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

We are created and gifted to serve God as we pursue the cause of Jesus.

## SERVING GOD BY SERVING OTHERS.

*1 Peter 4:10 (niv) God has shown you His grace in many different ways. So be good servants and use whatever gift He has given you in a way that will best serve each other.*

Ministry is the word the Bible uses for serving.

## SERVING LIKE JESUS

Jesus is our model to follow in how to serve - Jesus was hands on.

*“Your attitude must be like My Own, for I did not come to be served, but to serve...” Matthew 20:28 (tlb)*

*John 13:12b-15 “...do you understand what I have done for you?” He asked them. <sup>13</sup> “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup> Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. <sup>15</sup> I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.*

Jesus illustrated the degree to which He expected the disciples - and us - to embrace, to love and to serve others.

To get their hands dirty with other people's dirt!

*John 13:16-17* Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.<sup>17</sup> Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

## WHAT PREVENTS US FROM BEING AVAILABLE TO SERVE?

- **Busyness**

*Psalm 127:2 (tlb)* "It is senseless for you to work so hard from early morning until late at night... God wants his loved ones to get their proper rest."

*Ecclesiastes 4:6 (gnb)* "It's better to have only a little, with peace of mind, than be busy all the time..."

Busyness eats up our time and energy to serve or to identify opportunities to serve.

- **Right Conditions**

*Ecclesiastes 11:4 (nlt)* If you wait for perfect conditions, you'll never get anything done.

God uses normal people with short comings and inadequacies to do extraordinary things.

**Attitude:** *“I will make myself available and do the best I have with what I have.”* Having a go!

- **Lifestyle Choices**

*Luke 16:13 (niv) No servant can serve two masters ... You cannot serve both God and money.*

The Christian lifestyle is not a **partial** lifestyle – it requires an **all-in** commitment.

*Luke 9:23 (erv) (Jesus) “Any of you who want to be My follower must stop thinking about yourself and what you want. You must be willing to carry the cross that is given to you every day for following Me.*

- **Low Self-Esteem and Self-Worth**

Our self-worth comes from knowing we are accepted and called by God. Our self-worth is not found in **what** we do but **Whom** we do it for!

## **FAITHFULLY SERVE JESUS**

*1 Corinthians 4:2 (tev) The one thing required of servants is that they be faithful...*

*1 Corinthians 15:58 (msg) Throw yourselves into the work of the Master, confident that nothing you do for Him is a waste of time or effort.*

Jesus said, *I have brought You glory on earth by completing the work You gave me to do.* **John 17:4 (niv)**

Jesus was faithful in fulfilling His service.

Any time we're serving Jesus, no matter how small, it matters. In the eyes of Jesus, there is no insignificant service - it **ALL** counts!

**John Wesley:** *“Do all the good you can by all the means you can by all the ways you can in all the places you can and at all the times you can to all the people you can as long as you ever can.”*

## **ENJOY SERVING JESUS**

*Psalm 100:2 (kjv) Serve the Lord with gladness.*

*Romans 12:11 (erv) As you serve the Lord, work hard and don't be lazy. Be excited about serving Him!*

### **We can do three things with our life.**

1. We can **waste** it
2. We can **drift** through it, or
3. We can **invest** it!

*Matthew 25:21 (niv) Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things so; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!*

Do you desire to hear the words, *Well done, good and faithful servant!*