



FIRM FOUNDATION Series

Your Place in the Church

Psalm 84:10

For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Serving

Philippians 2:7-8

7 But made himself of no reputation and took upon him the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of man.

8 And being found fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Understand the Power of Serving.

Serving is doing what needs to be done at the time it needs to be done no matter what needs to be done.

Serving is the road we must travel if we are to fulfill the purpose God has for us.

In John chapter 13 Christ begins to wash the disciples' feet to show them that He is a servant here to serve.

Christ Taught of an Upside-Down Kingdom

Disciples were always asking who is going to be first in the kingdom. Christ taught that the first will be last, and the last will be first.

Matthew 20:25-28

25 But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princess of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them.

26 But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your servant.

27 And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant

28 Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

A servant's heart begins when you recognize the needs of the Kingdom and live out the conviction that it is "not my kingdom but thy kingdom."

The Need for Servants

Acts 6:1-4

1 And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministrations.

2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.

3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

Finding Your Place

Ephesians 2:19

Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners but fellow citizens with the saints of the household of God.

Ephesians 4:16

From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth according to the effectual working in the measure of every part.

1 Corinthians 12:12-31 talks about every believer being a member of Christ's body and as such has a definite ministry.

1. **Prophecy** – Inspired speaker, sharing your testimony with friends and family.
2. **Giving** – ability to give liberally and cheerfully of their treasures, time, and talents. God asks us to give 10% of what He blesses us with. what about time & talents?
3. **Encouragement** – Encourage one another & uplift through our actions and words.
4. **Leadership** – Lead others toward Christ, lead others in discipleship.
5. **Mercy** – Showing compassion to all.
6. **Serving** – Serve with your time, effort, and energies.
7. **Teaching** – Sunday School, Home Bible Study.
8. **Administration** – Person using their talent of organization.
9. **Helping** – Involving oneself in all areas of the church.

What's in your hand? God told Moses to use what he had.

Ecclesiastes 9:10

Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might.

God is More Concerned with Availability than Ability

Often times many Christians say, “I can’t do anything for God” or “I am not qualified to do anything for the kingdom of God.”

Exodus 4:10-12

10 And Moses said unto the Lord, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.

11 And the Lord said unto him, who hath made man’s mouth? Or who maketh the dumb or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? Have not the Lord?

12 Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth and teach thee what thou shalt say.

Isaiah 6 “Here I am Lord, send me.”

Use What God Has Given You

Matthew 25:14-18

14 For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.

15 And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

16 Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.

17 And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

18 But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord’s money.

To whom much is given, much is required.

Romans 12:3-8

3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think: but to think soberly according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

4 For as we are many members in one body, and all members have not the same office.

5 So we, being many, are one body, in Christ, and every one members one of another.

6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, wether we prophecy, let us prophecy according to the proportion of faith;

7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching

8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that showeth mercy, with cheerfulness.

The entire church must labor to accomplish God’s purpose on earth. Only Heaven will reveal the eternal results and dividends that have been prepared for those who are faithful.

There is a Purpose for the Church

Romans 10:14

How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

Carnality as a thwarter.

Romans 8:5-7

5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

The Biblical Model for Promotion

Acts 1:21-23

21 Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us.

22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection

23 And they appointed two, Joseph called Barabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.

They chose to promote the guys who kept showing up.

The Bible talks about being faithful in small things and God will make you ruler over big things.

Vital characteristics of finding your place

- Commitment
- Faithfulness
- Growth
- Love and respect for God's people
- Reverence for the serving in the Kingdom of God
- Small things are small things, but faithfulness in small things is a great thing.

Mark 14:7

He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.