



# Serving Others

Closer to God 2022  
Pursuing Holiness - 8

# The Bible and Serving

- It is no secret that Christians are expected to be servants
- If we are pursuing holiness, we will have the heart of a servant.
  - One who serves. To serve means to be helpful to others, viewing them as equals and worthy of sharing with.

**Philippians 2:3-4**

# The Bible and Serving

- “Ministry” (26) or “minister” (50) found ~76x in NT. While often associated with specialized service (esp. related to God’s word), they do involve serving, including others. Cf. Deacons



# The Bible and Serving

- Passages about serving
- **Acts 20:35** - support the weak...
- **Romans 12:6-7** - ministering with ability
- **Galatians 5:13-15** - through love serve one another
- **Ephesians 2:10** - His workmanship, created for good works



# The Bible and Serving

- Passages about serving
- **Hebrews 13:16** – do good and share
- **James 2:14-18** – faith by your works
- **Luke 6:38** – give and it will be given
- **Matthew 25:31-46** – judged by what we do for others



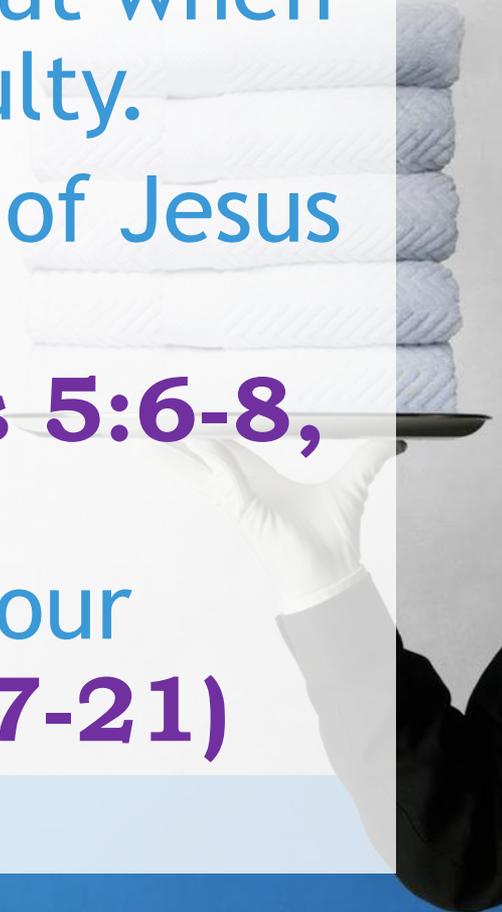
# The Bible and Serving

- Jesus, the ultimate servant
- **Matthew 20:25-28** - He came to serve, so should we
- **Luke 22:25-26** – be as one who serves
- **Philippians 2:7** – He left heaven to become a bondservant (**cf. Isaiah 42:1-2, 52:13ff**)
- **John 13:1-15** - washing the disciple's feet



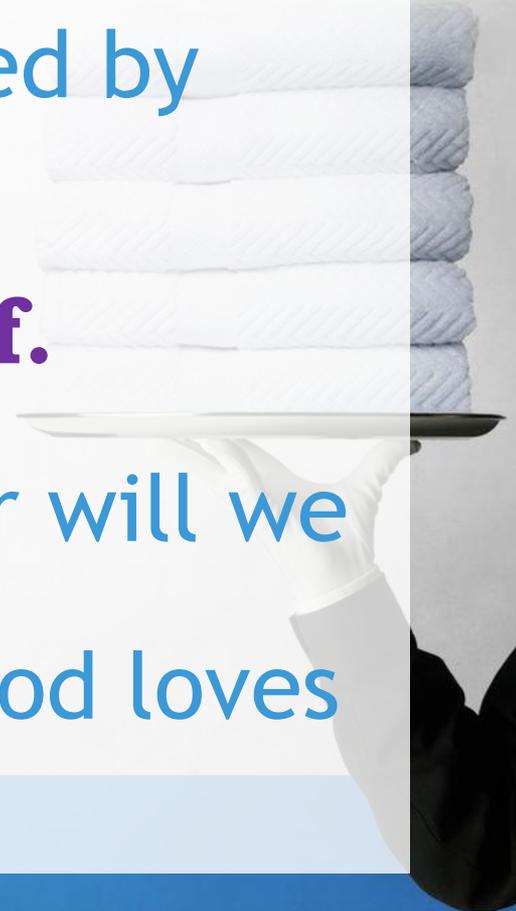
## It is not always easy

- Not hard when the task is pleasant or for loved ones, but what about when it requires sacrifice or difficulty.
- Again, consider the example of Jesus
  - **1 Peter 2:21-24**
  - Who He died for - **Romans 5:6-8**,  
**cf. John 13:1-15**
  - **Matthew 5:43-44** -love your enemies (**cf. Romans 12:17-21**)



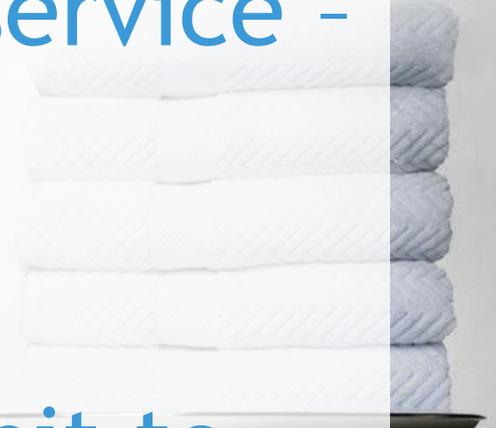
## It must be genuine

- Far too many “serve” with self-serving motives - **Matthew 6:2**
- Service needs to be motivated by love
  - **Matthew 22:39**
  - the “heart of a servant” (**cf. Matthew 20:25-28**)
  - **1 John 3:16-19** - how far will we go for our brethren? (**cf. 2 Corinthians 9:7** - God loves a cheerful giver)



## It requires humility

- Foundational in our service
  - Jesus taught humility in service -  
**Matthew 20:25-28**  
**Luke 17:10** - we are unprofitable
  - **1 Peter 5:5-6** - we submit to one another and are clothed with humility...
  - **Romans 12:3ff**



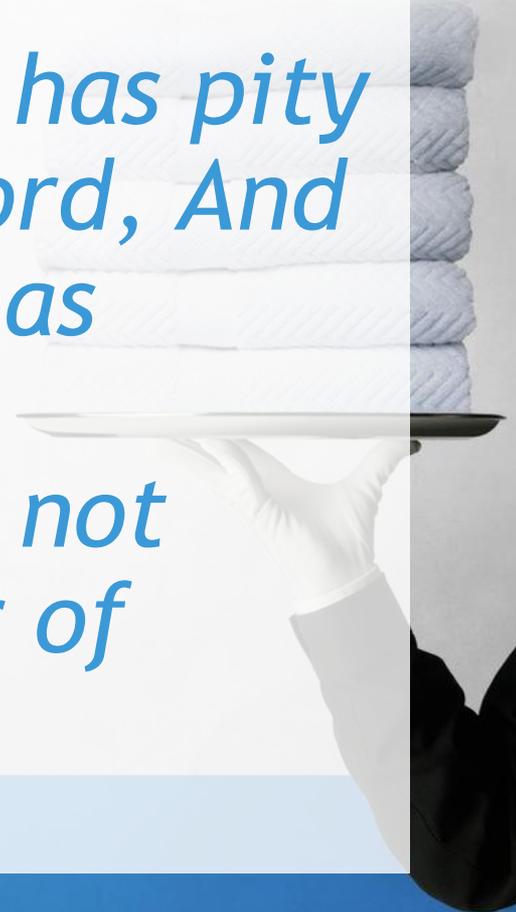
## What can you do?

- Help those in need - **James 1:27**
- Encourage others - with kindness - **1 Corinthians 13:4, Galatians 5:22-23**
- Stand with those who do what is right
- Pray for them - **1 Timothy 2:1, cf. 1 Samuel 12:23**



## It brings glory to God

- **Matthew 5:16** – shining lights bring glory to God
  - **Proverbs 19:17**, *He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord, And He will pay back what he has given.*
  - **Hebrews 6:10** - *God will not forget your work and labor of love...*

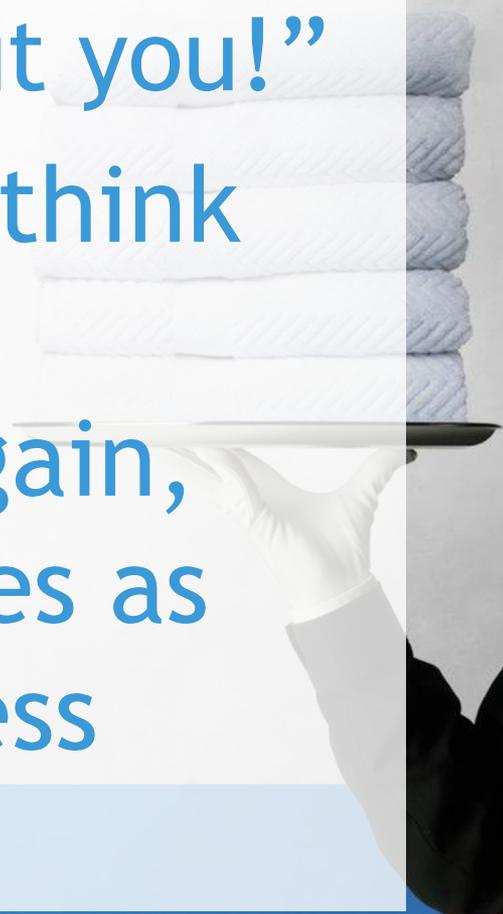


## It brings glory to God

- **1 Peter 4:10-11** – as we minister, God is glorified through Jesus Christ
- When you serve others, you ARE glorifying God - **Matthew 25:31ff, Ephesians 6:6-7, Colossians 3:23**
- Serving God will prompt you to serve others - **2 Corinthians 8:5, Titus 2:14 (cf. Matthew 22:37-39)**

## It takes the focus off of you

- The life of a Christian is about others, “It is not just about you!”
- - **Romans 12:3** – not to think more highly of yourself
- **cf. Luke 22:24-26** - again, Jesus reminds His disciples as they argue about greatness



## For the sake of the church

- People want to see a caring church
- **Galatians 5:13,**  
Paul cared - **2 Corinthians 12:15, Colossians 1:24-25**  
- If we are to thrive, we need to care and care about each other  
(**1 Corinthians 12:25**)



## It can turn others to God

- True holiness wants to share with others
- Paul cared - **1 Corinthians 9:19-23, cf. Matthew 5:16**  
In discussing how pursuing holiness affects every area of our lives - others see us and we want to win them over to Him!



## As Christians, it is the right thing to do

- So much of the Bible is about others (our 2016 theme)
- That makes it a quality of holiness!



Am I reflecting genuine  
holiness toward others?

Let us pray!