

Refuge Church at Pleasant Hill

June 4th Sunday Morning Service

Serve - Part 4

Tyson Brewster

Mark 10:45 ESV

45 For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

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Serve - diakoneō

Servant

Attendant

Minister

Meet someone needs

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Jesus has called us to:

1. Be a disciple
2. Make disciples

A disciple is a follower.

Student

Apprentice

You would follow this person around and learn from them and learn watching them.

A disciple would go wherever their leader went and would do whatever their leader would do.

Live fire training program.

There is ONE goal for the disciple.....

A disciple would become like their teacher.

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Luke 6:40 ESV

40 A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.

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IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO BE A DISCIPLE OR A FOLLOWER OF SOMEONE AND NOT END UP LIKE THAT PERSON.....

We cannot be a Christian without becoming more like Christ.

We cannot be a follower who does not follow.

Jesus did not ask us to take his name and then say that we do not have to become more like Him.....

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1. If Jesus came to serve and our goal is to become more like Jesus, then we will be more like Jesus when we serve.

Remember last week, we primarily serve others when we are sharing the good news of the gospel.

Question - Are you serving others in some way?

If you are not then maybe that is your next step in becoming a better follower of Jesus.

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2 Corinthians 4:1-18 ESV

1 Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. 2 But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. 3 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. 4 In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 5 For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. 6 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of

darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. ⁷ But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. ⁸ We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰ always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. ¹¹ For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. ¹² So death is at work in us, but life in you. ¹³ Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, "I believed, and so I spoke," we also believe, and so we also speak, ¹⁴ knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. ¹⁵ For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. ¹⁶ So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, ¹⁸ as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

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The assumption in verse 3-6 is that we are sharing the gospel.

Paul says in verse 1 this is his ministry. (diakonia)

Verse 5 - We proclaim Jesus

with ourselves as YOUR servants for Jesus sake.

2. We are servants of others for Jesus' sake. (v 5)

3. Our power comes from God. (v 7)

4. To serve means to make Jesus known with our lives. (v 10)

Question - Do people see Jesus through your life?

5. We serve others so that grace can be extended to more and more people. (v 15)

6. When we serve we serve with eternity on our minds. (v 17,18)

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2 Corinthians 5:14-21 ESV

¹⁴ For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; ¹⁵ and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live

for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. ¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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7. It is the love of Christ that compels us to serve. (v 14)

8. Jesus gave himself up for us, therefore we do not live for ourselves but serve others. (v 14,15)

9. We are to see people as God sees people (v 16)

10. This change in us is from God and is evidence of God working in our lives. (v 17,18)

11. Our God given ministry (diakonia - call to serve) is to see people reconciled to God. (v 18, 19)

12. We represent God in the world today as ambassadors. (v 20) God appeals to the lost through us.

13. By not serving we receive the grace of God in vain. (v 1)

Vain:

Empty

Without truth

Destitute

No purpose

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2 Corinthians 6:1 ESV

¹ Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain.

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I want to give you a call to serve.

1. Helping Hands

2. Honduras

Giving - Collecting items.

Sponsoring a Child

3. Mission of Hope in Kentucky

4. Kidz Ministry

5. Student Ministry

6. VBS

7. Single Parent Ministry

8. Worship Band

9. Nursery

10. Umbrella Crew

11. Start a discipleship group / bible study

12. Handicap Ramp

Live for others and not yourself.

Leverage the talent that God has given for the Kingdom of God and use it to display the character of God.

Do not receive the grace of God in vain.