



Youth Ministry February 9, 2014

Lesson:

This week, we continued our series about relationships in talking about serving.

We started by discussing what it actually means to serve. We said that serving is doing something for somebody else with no expectation of any reward. Serving is the attitude in your heart when your focus is on what you give and not what you get. Your mindset changes from thought of self to being others conscious or in thinking about others first.

We noted that Jesus said that he came to serve NOT to be served yet he was served by everyone. His disciples did many things to serve him, complete strangers gave him food and shelter, people washed his feet and put oil on his head. Of course Jesus DID serve many with no thought for himself or what was in it for him. It was the attitude in Jesus' heart when he served others that brought people to serve him. People served Jesus because he came to serve them.

The power is in serving others. We are served to serve others just as we are blessed to be a blessing. We said that we are NOT saved by our works but are saved by Grace to do good works. In other words, we do not serve others to be saved, we are saved so that we may serve others.

We then discussed places where we can serve. We said that we must first serve in our own family. There are many ways we can serve right in our own home. We can also serve at school or at work. We learned that if we change our way of thinking to not focus on how much we get paid per hour but instead focus on how much value we bring to each hour the result will be in us receiving more pay for our service. We also discussed ways that we can serve in our Church and in our community. We are building teams of servants to help support our Church and each other as well as performing monthly service projects together in our community.

We said that serving does not have to be complicated and can be as simple as greeting somebody with a smile and sincerely asking how they are doing. You are serving them by acknowledging them and showing concern for their well being.

We discussed some of the other "benefits" of serving others. First, serving others makes us "feel good" and the reason that we feel good when we serve others is because we are doing what God created us to do. Serving can also teach us new skills and allow us to meet new people. Serving also builds good character; teaches us responsibility and accountability. Serving can even help us learn what it is that we love to do (or not do). When we do something because we want to get something out of it we will get tired and "burned out" but, when we serve from the heart because it is something that we love to do we will never be tired of it.

We said that when you're looking for a career, if you do something that you LOVE to do, you'll never have to work a day in your life. Plus, you'll be sowing seeds with a "serving heart" which will make for an abundant harvest.

When you serve with a servant's heart you will be amazed with the result.

Bible Verse: Matthew 23:11

11 The greatest among you will be your servant.

Bible Verse: Mark 10:45

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

Bible Verse: Galatians 6:7

7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.

Bible Verse: Galatians 5:13

13 You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.

Bible Verse: Ephesians 2:10

10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.