

What Can I Bring? (Part 2)

Sunday, January 22, 2017

Pastor Adam

John 14:15

“If you love me, obey my commandments.”

1 Peter 4:10

“God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.”

Matthew 14:14 Jesus feeds the 5,000



- Jesus brought the miracle but the body (disciples) brought it to the people.
- The Mature believers wanted Jesus to just take care of them.
- Let the masses fend for themselves. They're not part of our “Bless me club”.
- We are called to be a Bread Distribution Center not an Exclusive Dinner Party.

5 Truths About Serving

1. *Serving Brings* _____ **Unity** _____.

Ephesians 4:1

- ~ Whether you like it or not, there is a call of God upon your life.
- ~ One day, you will give an account for how you spent your days.
- ~ “Worthy” ... “with sufficient weight, soberly”.

Colossians 1:10 “Live in a manner worthy of the Lord.”

~ “Called” – it’s like a summons to Jury Duty. An invitation to participate in the judicial process of your country. However, this invitation, this “calling,” isn’t really an invitation that leaves an option of whether or not to attend.

Vs 2-6 When everyone does their part there is Unity.

2. *Serving* _____ **Builds** _____ *The Church*.

Ephesians 4:11-13

- ~ Churches are meant to grow! Every person has a story to share.
- ~ What happens when you start working out? You get sore.
- ~ But being in shape enables you to lift more, do more, be quicker.
- ~ Stop working out and you become fat, lazy, waste away.

Acts 6:1-4

- v1** The number of disciples was growing – that is good; as this happens more and diversified help is needed; growth causes needs that must be addressed
- a. Complaining and strife must be eliminated. It will hurt the church.
 - b. More people were required to do their part to prevent the faithful from doing too much.
 - c. Church can be over organized or under organized – there is a happy medium.

- v2 The apostles knew something must be done immediately to avoid dissension.
 - a. People often cannot receive spiritually if natural needs not met.
 - b. The apostles knew they didn't have enough time/energy to minister to all of the needs.
 - c. They surely are not above serving tables – they knew their call was to teach the Word.
 - d. There are both natural and spiritual needs in a church.

- v3 The congregation choose 7 men from among them.
 - a. Leadership should grow internally in a church. No need to look outside for people.
 - b. A good reputation; people of integrity;
 - c. Full of the Holy Spirit; having a confidence in God.
 - d. Wisdom; full of the Word and how to apply it in everyday circumstances.
 - e. The congregation appointed the leaders and God anointed them to serve.

- v4 These 7 men would see to it that the natural needs were met.
 - a. The Apostles had specific work to do; prayer and equipping the saints with the Word.
 - b. A church is greatly hurt when those called to pray and preach are overwhelmed with administrative duties.
 - c. The Apostles weren't "too good" to wait tables, it just wasn't the best use of their gifts.

3. *We All Have* Special *Gifts To Serve With.*

1 Corinthians 12:18-21

- ~ Many parts, not just a select few.
- ~ God put us together as a body. It's not an accident that you are a part of GFC.
- ~ We are each unique and there is no need for "Part Envy", wishing they were something else.
- ~ We need EVERY part!

4. *All Gifts Are* Important.

1 Corinthians 12:22-25

Hidden parts are honored.
 God reserves special honor for these people.
 Every part matters.

5. *Serving Bring* Maturity *And Stability.*

Ephesians 4:14-16

- ~ Serving forces you to attend, to hear the Word, to worship. You can't help but grow from this.
- ~ If you're not at church something is missing.
- ~ The whole body fits together perfectly.

Luke 10:2

"The harvest is great, but the workers are few.
 So, pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest;
 ask Him to send more workers into His fields."