

## What Can I Bring? Part 3

Sunday, January 29, 2017

Pastor Adam

**“We are not saved BY serving people  
but we are saved FOR serving people!”**

~Joyce Meyer

### 1 John 3:16-17 (NLT)

“We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So, *we also ought to give up our lives* for our brothers and sisters. If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion—how can God’s love be in that person?”

- Jesus laid down His life for us. He didn’t consider life something to hold on to. He is our example.
- Be aggressive in looking for ways to serve and help others. Pray for opportunities.

### Galatians 5:13 (NLT)

“For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don’t use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.”

### Ephesians 6:5-8 (MSG)

Servant... that name feels unimportant, unpleasant, beneath us but it is who we are called to be.

### Colossians 3:23-24 (AMP)

“*Whatever* you do, *whatever* your task may be, work from the soul, put in your very best effort, as something done for the Lord and not for men, knowing with all certainty that it is from the Lord and not from men that you will receive the inheritance which is your greatest reward. It is the Lord Christ whom you actually serve.

- Whatever your task!! The job isn’t as important as your attitude towards the job.

## 7 Blessings We Experience By Serving Others:

### 1. Serving helps us to be more Like Jesus.

#### Matthew 25:32-40 (AMP)

- Sheep are easily led, they need to be led.
- Goats butt up against things. They are unruly.



You did it as unto ME!!

Reverse is true... Goats did nothing for Him! They were selfish.

Bottom line – Jesus takes it personally how we treat people!

We shift our focus off of ourselves onto others through serving. We begin to see others as Jesus sees them.

### 2. Serving allows us to Develop our spiritual gifts.

1 Corinthians 12 compares the church to a human body.

Just like our bodies are made of many parts serving specific functions, the church is made up of people with different skills and abilities. Alone these pieces aren’t very useful, but together we create something beautiful.

When considering serving, ask yourself these questions:

- In what ways am I especially blessed by God?
- What do I enjoy doing?
- What comes naturally for me?
- What could I learn to do?
- What needs to be done the most at church?
- What is now being done inadequately?
- What are others doing that I can help with?

3. *Serving allows us to experience*     **Miracles**     *firsthand.*

- Water turned into wine.
- Cast your nets again.

4. *Serving surrounds us with*     **Christian Family**    .

When we're working side by side with other people, a bond inevitably forms. This was part of God's plan for how the church is supposed to work. That's why **Hebrews 10:24-25** instructs us to "spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together... but encouraging one another."

5. *Serving*     **Increases**     *our faith.*

As we serve the Lord more, God increases our faith by revealing new potential — in ourselves and in His Church. We begin to see what He can do when His power is at work within us, we begin looking for bigger obstacles to conquer.

**Ephesians 3:20 (AMP)**

"To Him who is able to carry out His purpose and do superabundantly more than all that we dare ask or think, infinitely beyond our greatest prayers, hopes, or dreams, according to His power that is at work within us"

6. *Serving keeps our hearts*     **Humble**    .

**Matthew 20:20-21, 24-26 (NLT)**

- With Authority comes responsibility.
- People always want to have an opinion opposite the authority.
- Be merciful towards people in authority.

**Matthew 20:26** NOT SO SHALL IT BE AMONG YOU!

- Make sure you treat people under you with respect.
- Pay them well, honor them.
- Anyone can be a boss, be a leader!

Have you ever prayed and asked God to show you how to help people more?

7. *Serving has*     **Eternal**     *value. It is never a waste of time.*

**1 Corinthians 15:58 (NLT)**

"So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless."

- Paul is telling the Christians to super abound, or be plentiful, in the work of the Lord.
- Christians are called to serve. Christianity is not a passive system of faith. It is a system of action.
- We have a church here today because someone 3 decades ago did their job.
- We can make all sorts of rational excuses for not serving:

*I don't have time.*

*I don't know what I would do.*

*They don't need me.*

The reality is:  
**The Lord doesn't call the equipped;  
He equips the called.**