

SERVE YOUR CIRCLE

July 7-8, 2018

I wonder what word better describes you...

SELFISH OR SELFLESS

SELFISH PEOPLE ARE LIFE SUCKERS

SELFISH PEOPLE LACK THE GIFT OF “CONSIDERATION”

They lack consideration of others needs or wants...they lack empathy
And seem not to care about anyone other than themselves...

Selfless people on the other hand are on the opposite end of the spectrum...

SELFLESS PEOPLE ARE SERVANTS

Who leverage who they are to help others become who they can be

They are driven by compassion and consideration

I would love for our church to be known as a house full of selfless servants
Think about the impact we could have if every person sitting in our campuses didn't just
serve but became a servant

SELFLESS PEOPLE ARE LIFE GIVERS...NOT LIFE TAKERS

SERVING IS AN ACTION....SERVANT IS A LIFESTYLE...

You see - you are never going to become all that you were created to be...until you step
outside yourself and give of yourself and become a servant...

God created us to serve...to become a servant that lives a lifestyle of serving

GOD DIDN'T BUILD YOU FOR JUST YOU

I believe we are suppose to

SERVE OUR CIRCLE...

YOU ARE LIKE ESTHER...

Esther was a woman in the Old Testament...

She, by God's favor, was placed in an influential position. She had a sphere of influence...She was a Jew and Her people were being threatened...There was a man That was plotting to kill all of the Jews...his Name was Haman....

Esther had an opportunity to serve her nation by using the Place God had placed her in...but she had a decision to make...

ESTHER 4:13-14 NLT

"Mordecai sent this reply to Esther: "Don't think for a moment that because you're in the palace you will escape when all other Jews are killed. If you keep quiet at a time like this, deliverance and relief for the Jews will arise from some other place, but you and your relatives will die. Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?""

YOU ARE LIKE ESTHER...

You have been placed in position of influence

Don't underestimate what God can do through you....

Serve your Circle

3 PLACES WE ARE ALL SUPPOSE TO SERVE....

1. Our Family
2. Our Church
3. Our Community

Where ever you go...there is something inside you that others need....

Today's Big Idea

WHEN I SERVE PEOPLE IN THE SIMPLEST OF WAYS...GOD WILL USE ME TO GET THEM THROUGH THEIR MOST DIFFICULT DAYS...

JOHN 12:1-8 (NLT)

“Six days before the Passover celebration began, Jesus arrived in Bethany, the home of Lazarus—the man he had raised from the dead. A dinner was prepared in Jesus’ honor. Martha served, and Lazarus was among those who ate with him. Then Mary took a twelve-ounce jar of expensive perfume made from essence of nard, and she anointed Jesus’ feet with it, wiping his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance. But Judas Iscariot, the disciple who would soon betray him, said, “That perfume was worth a year’s wages. It should have been sold and the money given to the poor.” Not that he cared for the poor—he was a thief, and since he was in charge of the disciples’ money, he often stole some for himself. Jesus replied, “Leave her alone. She did this in preparation for my burial. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me.””

A SIMPLE WOMAN SERVED JESUS IN A SIMPLE WAY....

Her serving in simple ways - help Jesus through some of his most difficult days...

Some things we learn from Mary about SERVING:

- 1. SERVING OTHERS WILL COST YOU SOMETHING**
- 2. SERVING OTHERS REQUIRES HUMILITY**
- 3. SERVING IS BIRTHED FROM LOVE AND GRATITUDE**
- 4. EVERYONE HAS SOMETHING SIMPLE TO GIVE**

Just a few verses later...

WE SEE THE ONE WHO HAD BEEN SERVED... NOW SERVING OTHERS...

JOHN 13:1-9 (NLT)

“Before the Passover celebration, Jesus knew that his hour had come to leave this world and return to his Father. He had loved his disciples during his ministry on earth, and now he loved them to the very end. It was time for supper, and the devil had already prompted Judas, son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had given him authority over everything and that he had come from God and would return to God. So he got up from the table, took off his robe, wrapped a towel around his waist, and poured water into a basin. Then he began to wash the disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel he had around him. When Jesus came to Simon Peter, Peter said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” Jesus replied, “You don’t understand now what I am doing, but someday you will.” “No,” Peter protested, “you will never ever wash my feet!” Jesus replied, “Unless I wash you, you won’t belong to me.” Simon Peter exclaimed, “Then wash my hands and head as well, Lord, not just my feet!”

“DON’T TOUCH THAT...”

When We serve People in the simplest of ways...

We touch the darkest places of their life and communicate the heart of Jesus to them...

**THERE IS NOTHING IN YOUR LIFE SO
REPULSIVE... THAT IT CAN MAKE ME (JESUS) STOP
LOVING YOU!**

You see I think when we

serve our circle...when we serve our circle in simple ways...

We not only help get people through their most difficult days...

**BUT GOD USES US TO HELP PULL THEM OUT OF
THEIR GRAVES....**

What do I do now?

1. ACCEPT OUR GRATITUDE IF YOU ALREADY ARE SERVING

1. Thank you
2. Don't underestimate the power & impact that simple serving has on those you encounter & serve
3. Know that when you serve in simple ways...you help others through their most difficult days

2. ANSWER THE QUESTION...

1. Am I Selfish or Selfless
2. If the answer is selfless....great...keep up the good work
3. If the answer is selfish - the best way to overcome that is to choose to serve intentionally
 1. Pick a place in your circle to serve this week...
 2. Know that you to...can help positively impact the lives around you in your circle of influence

3. PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER SERVING YOUR CIRCLES OF INFLUENCE.

1. It's not always about where you serve...but if you are serving...
2. God can use you where ever you are

4. ARE YOU A PERSON WHO IS TELLING GOD "DON'T TOUCH THAT"

1. Let God touch that
2. Stop trying to do for yourself what Only God can do...
3. Let us serve you today and help you become aware of God's love for you

SERVE YOUR CIRCLE

Serving in simple ways...helps others through their most difficult days