

The Lost Art of Servanthood

The concept of servanthood carries with it some negative attitudes and images. Think of the word “servant” and what is the first thing that comes to mind? Think again. What is the second mental image you see?

Keynote Verse: Philippians 2:1-13 “Let this mind be in you....”

1. Some Attitude Adjusters

- a. Jesus Christ came as a servant.
- b. Servanthood is one of the “missing keys” that unlocks dynamic Christianity.
- c. The words “minister” and “deacon” refer to service oriented work, not ego oriented leadership. Minister means a person who administers something and a deacon literally meant to “run errands”.
- d. Servanthood carries with the concepts of
 - i. Submission to the master – No man can serve two masters
 - ii. A job to be done
 - iii. Accountability
 - iv. Reward
- e. Vocabulary Words
 - i. Bond Slave/Servant – GR: Doulos - Root is to bind by tying or fastening
 1. A servant, Slave or Attendant
 2. Metaph., one who gives himself up to another's will those whose service is used by Christ in extending and advancing his cause among men
 3. devoted to another to the disregard of one's own interests
 - ii. Minister
 1. GR: Diakonos – Root Diako-“to run errands”
 - a. one who executes the commands of another, esp. of a master, a servant, attendant, minister
 - b. the servant of a king
 - c. a deacon, one who, by virtue of the office assigned to him by the church, cares for the poor and has charge of and distributes the money collected for their use
 - d. a waiter, one who serves food and drink
 2. GR: Huperetes – “To Row” “An underrower” or one who serves with hands
 - iii. Deacon GR: Diakoneo
 1. To wait tables or render service]
 2. To relieve one's necessities (by taking alms, etc
 3. Take care of the sick and poor
 - iv. Pastor/shepherd GR: Poimen
 1. The tasks of a Near Eastern shepherd were: - to watch for enemies trying to attack the sheep - to defend the sheep from attackers - to heal the wounded and sick sheep - to find and save lost or trapped sheep - to love them, sharing their lives and so earning their trust.

2. Jesus the Pattern Son

- a. Phil. 2:1-13-Let this mind be in you
- b. Math. 26:39-Not my will but your be done
- c. Math. 20:20-28 The Son of Man came to minister not be ministered to
- d. Mark 9:33-37-Who's the greatest
- e. John 13:1-17-Do to one another as I have done to you