

**TODAY'S  
SERVICE?**

**WHY  
DO WE  
SERVE?**

**IT IS GOD HONOURING**

## **Ephesians 2:1-10 (NLT)**

<sup>1</sup> Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins.

<sup>2</sup> You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God.

<sup>3</sup> All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else.

<sup>4</sup> But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much,

<sup>5</sup> that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!)

<sup>6</sup> For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus.  
long ago.

<sup>7</sup> So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup> God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God.

<sup>9</sup> Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

<sup>10</sup> For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us

# IT IS GOD HONOURING

- Response to God's love
- While we were still sinners Christ died for us  
Romans 5:8
- We are his handiwork, his masterpiece.
- Two responses
  - Faith
  - Action

# WHY DO WE SERVE?

- It is God honouring
- It is Christ like

## **Mark 10:35-45 (NLT)**

<sup>35</sup> Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came over and spoke to him. “Teacher,” they said, “we want you to do us a favour.”

<sup>36</sup> “What is your request?” he asked.

<sup>37</sup> They replied, “When you sit on your glorious throne, we want to sit in places of honour next to you, one on your right and the other on your left.”

<sup>38</sup> But Jesus said to them, “You don’t know what you are asking! Are you able to drink from the bitter cup of suffering I am about to drink? Are you able to be baptized with the baptism of suffering I must be baptized with?”

<sup>39</sup> “Oh yes,” they replied, “we are able!” Then Jesus told them, “You will indeed drink from my bitter cup and be baptized with my baptism of suffering.

<sup>40</sup> But I have no right to say who will sit on my right or my left. God has prepared those places for the ones he has chosen.”

<sup>41</sup> When the ten other disciples heard what James and John had asked, they were indignant.

<sup>42</sup> So Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. <sup>43</sup> But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, <sup>44</sup> and whoever wants to be first among you must be the slave of everyone else.

<sup>45</sup> For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

# IT IS CHRIST LIKE

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Mark 10:45

- It's one thing to... but it's another to...
- Can we live it?
- Attitude of Jesus.
- Older Son – so close...

# IT IS CHRIST LIKE

Practical examples – the opportunities!

- Hosting – Sunday and midweek welcome
- Helping children put down roots and begin to fly!  
– Junior Church
- Enabling people to hear about Jesus.



# WHY DO WE SERVE?

- It is God honouring
- It is Christ like
- It is Spirit led

**IT IS SPIRIT LED**

## Romans 7:4-6 (NLT)

<sup>4</sup> So, my dear brothers and sisters, this is the point: You died to the power of the law when you died with Christ. And now you are united with the one who was raised from the dead. As a result, we can produce a harvest of good deeds for God.

<sup>5</sup> When we were controlled by our old nature, sinful desires were at work within us, and the law aroused these evil desires that produced a harvest of sinful deeds, resulting in death. <sup>6</sup> But now we have been released from the law, for we died to it and are no longer captive to its power. Now we can serve God, not in the old way of obeying the letter of the law, but in the new way of living in the Spirit.

# IT IS SPIRIT LED

Now we can serve God, not in the old way of obeying the letter of the law, but in the new way of living in the Spirit.

Message version of **Romans 7:6**

But now that we're no longer shackled to that domineering mate of sin, and out from under all those oppressive regulations and fine print, we're free to live a new life in the freedom of God.

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