

“We Are Saved To Serve!”

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Sunday Morning, 9:30am Stream

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hashtags:

*#guidinglight #pastorjim
#service #heart
#willpower #surrender
#love #showinglove
#loveofGod #loveofChrist
#repentance #serving
#forgiveness #Godworks
#savedtoserve*

{All scriptures are NIV84 unless stated}

We spent some weeks talking about serving.

The more I study this...the more important this is becoming.

Important that we get it.

How God called us not only here with a purpose...

But he called us to USE that purpose as well.

Romans 12:1

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.

This is telling us that we should offer our bodies as a living sacrifice.

In view of God’s mercy.

In view of the goodness he’s shown to us...

In return:

We should offer our bodies as a living sacrifice to him.

Holy and pleasing.

Because that is our spiritual act of worship.

Looking closer Paul is saying that he is urging someone.

Who Is Paul Talking To?

Paul is urging you...or “US.”

“Brothers...” this tells us who he’s talking to.

He is NOT talking to the world. He is talking to US.

Brothers and Sisters...

Believers!

Paul is urging you to offer yourselves.

Urge comes from the greek word “parakaleo”

It means to implore...

It means to urge...

It means to beg...

Paul is BEGGING us to be a living sacrifice.

God wants more than just us when we die.

We are to offer our BODIES as a sacrifice for God.

What Does Being A Sacrifice For God Mean?

It means you aren’t living for:

Being A Sacrifice For God Means Not Living For:

1. Ourselves

this means not doing exclusively what YOU want.

this means not doing your own thing.

it also means following the WHOLE bible.

...not just some of it.

we tend to have a version of the bible we follow.

things we can incorporate...

things we will NOT incorporate.

“what we like vs what we don’t agree with”

Being A Living Sacrifice Means To Live According To God's Standards, Not Our Own!

This means before we make big decisions, we pray about it.

Before taking a new job, do you pray about it?

Before buying that home or car, do you pray about it?

Before marrying that person, do you pray about it?

Being a living sacrifice means to make sure to constantly "check ourselves" with what God says.

Does it line up with what God wants?

Does it line up with what God says?

Being A Sacrifice For God Means Not Living For: 2. Anything Else

this means not living for someone OR someTHING else.

Exodus 20:3

You shall have no other God's before me.

God makes it plain that nothing should take the place of him.

These are things like other people.

God wants us to live for him.

Not our spouse, significant other.

Not our children or our parents.

Not our employers. Not anyone.

God wants to be above everything.

We are BEGGED to offer our bodies as sacrifices to God alone!

Why?

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

19 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

Our lives are not our own.

We should honor God with our body.

What Does God Expect From Us?

This goes back to what we had been saying the over the last month.

Galatians 5:13

13 You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love.

We were called to be free.

We were bought with a price.

But we shouldn't use that freedom to do what we want.

We are to serve one another in love.

We are to serve.

The Life Of A Christian Is Defined By 2 Things:

1. Our Relationship With God
2. Our Ability To SHOW Love To One Another

Matthew 22:35

35 One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: 36 "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" 37 Jesus replied: ' "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. '38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. '40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

ALL the law and prophets hang on these two commandments.

One is for YOU.

The other is an action for SOMEONE else.

So how do we show love?

Galatians 5:13 (b)

But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love.

Serve one another in love...

Serve...serve...serve...

Luke 10:33-35

33 But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. **34** He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. **35** The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

What did the Samaritan do?

He SERVED the other man.

His show of love was service to someone else.

We as believers have to get BACK to loving and serving in ACTION.

Action...action is something you DO.

And that action involves SOMEONE else!

The Body Of Christ Today Is Too Heavily Focused On Ourselves And Not Focused Enough On One Another!

We are placing our own comforts in front of God.

We are placing our ourselves...

our families...

our desires

...all these things above God.

Paul is BEGGING us to offer our bodies as sacrifices to God.

Paul is TELLING us to SERVE one another in love.

God May Hear What We Say, But He Is LOOKING At What We Do!

Psalm 33:12-15

12Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people he chose for his inheritance.

13From heaven the Lord looks down and sees all mankind; **14**from his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth—**15** **he who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do.**

BLESSED is the nation whose God is the Lord.

(13) From heaven the Lord looks and sees ALL (everyone)

(14) He watches ALL.

(15) *He considers what they DO.* (NOT what they say)

You Serve God When You Serve Others!

This is what a believer is about.

SHOWING the love of God through and action.

SHOWING the love of God through serving.

We Should Live The Gospel At All Times And When Absolutely Necessary Use Words!

Live our lives in a way that people KNOW you love God.

How??

By loving and SERVING his people.

We Are Saved To Serve!

We are offering ways to serve today and the rest of the month.

If you are CURRENTLY serving in ministry, take a look to make sure there may not be other places you can help share the gospel.

Audio/Video

Spreading the message not only to those in the building but helping it get to the world as well.

Prison Ministry

Taking Christ to those serving in prison. Spreading hope and the gospel everywhere.

Parking and Ushers

Helping to keep order and provide friendly faces to those here to help them to see Christ while here.

Online Communications

Helping us to share our message and market to those online.

We've got to get to serving.

If you are faithfully coming and NOT serving...

we need you.

If you are not faithfully coming and not serving...

we need you to come AND serve.

If you are faithfully watching online and ABLE to come to church.

it's time to come on back.

we need you.

God is looking for those who are giving their lives to him.

2 Chronicles 16:9 (NASB)

For the eyes of the LORD roam throughout the earth, so that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His.

God wants us to give ourselves to him.

And by doing HIS will do we get strengthened.

What's his will?

To serve others.

We Aren't Saved Just For Ourselves. We Are Saved To Serve Others!