

Sunday Sermon Notes

"Serving"

Remember the game plan!

Making Christ-like disciples by
Celebrating, Loving, Serving, Bringing

Understanding our Christian DNA (*Ephesians 2:8-10*)

I am saved By grace
 Through faith
 For good works

Refusing to settle for second best? (*Mark 10:41-45*)

The upside-down kingdom
The slave of all
Who cleans the toilets?

Not really optional! (*Matthew 25:31-46*)

God's criteria for judgment
Surprising expectations
Eternal consequences

Some practical advice

Know thyself
Destroy your old paradigms
Expand your horizons
Get out of your comfort zone
Sacrifice is unavoidable
Trust in God

What if judgment were today?

Are you a sheep or a goat?

It's time for action, not more words!

Digging Deeper

Notes for Individual Meditation and Small Group Discussion

Share with the group a memory of receiving either very poor service or very good service at a restaurant.

Review the sermon notes from Sunday's sermon. What point in the sermon made the greatest impact on you?

What discourages you most from serving as this sermon teaches us to do?

Read Matthew 25:14-17

Discussion Questions

(Remember that not all questions must be used)

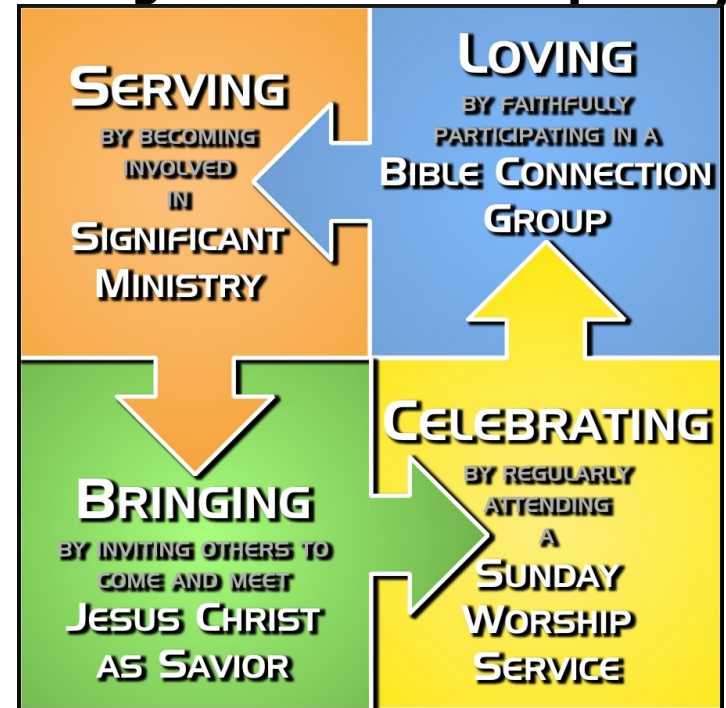
This is a parable of Jesus that helps us understand "The kingdom of heaven (God). It is important to note that as Christians we are participants in this kingdom right now.

When you read that a man was going on a journey and entrusted his servants with his property, who do you think Jesus meant by the man (master) and his servants?

A talent of money would be worth \$16,200.00 in today's money. How does knowing this make you feel about the servant who got only one talent as opposed to five?

What reasons can you think the master may have had for giving his servants different amounts of money for which to be responsible? How might past performance have played into a servant's trustworthiness?

Making Christ-Like Disciples by:



In what ways besides money does God trust us with His possessions? What are some things you believe God has already entrusted you with?

What right do you think the master had to expect his servants to multiply their talents rather than just preserve them?

What are the things with which you believe God has entrusted you? What do you believe God expects you to do with those things to multiply them rather than just preserve them?

How does the master respond to the two servants who doubled their talents? In what ways do you think God puts us in charge of many things? At what point in our lives do you think God holds us accountable?

Why do you think the master accused the servant who only preserved his talent to be "wicked"? Why do you think he is not really being too harsh?

What do you think would have happened if the servant had actually lost the talent rather than just preserved it?

How might we be guilty of only preserving talents rather than multiplying them. How might we even be guilty of losing them?

Let's be honest! How well do you think you are really doing with those things God has entrusted you? What do you think you should be doing about that?

When you are praying for each other this evening, ask God to help each one of you to be good stewards of the resources he has entrusted into your care.

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Matthew 25:31-46

"Serving!"

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