

Improving Your Serve 1-6-13

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. Romans 12:1

Part I: Finding the Heart of Service

A. Matthew 20:20-28 – Jesus speaks about the goal of a Christian – to place ourselves into a mindset of a servant. Perhaps the slave concept seeks to cause us to serve without the need for remuneration

B. The TV Series “Downton Abbey” as an example – in D.A., the servants are obsessed with three things in particular.

Honoring the House: The servants love serving in the home of a nobleman (The Earl of Grantham). They are ardent defenders of the honor of the house. They obsess about the smallest details in their pursuit of honor

Fearing reproach: In Downton Abbey, the servants have great trepidation in bringing any shame to the house. In one story-arc, a member of the staff resigns rather than let someone else reveal a scandal on the Earl.

Love of service: The servants find no shame in being a servant; to the contrary, they are very satisfied in service. They cannot understand anyone who would not be. They also have affection for each other in this service.

C. We serve The House of God, the greatest noble house in existence.

Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, Ephesians 2:19

Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful. 1 Corinthians 4:1-2

Part II: Applications

A. Honoring the House –

Luke 17:7-10 - Do we see our “reasonable service” in this passage?

2 Timothy 2:20-26 – Are we prepared as a vessel of honor in the Great House?

B. Bring No Reproach

Proverbs 14:35 – God disdains dishonor

Matthew 24:45-51 – God punishes unfaithful servants

C. Love of Service

Galatians 6:1-10 – Do we love the fellow servants of the House

Matthew 18:23-35 -

Part III: Conclusions

In 2013 let us take up the servants heart

Let us seek to bring honor to God

Let us fear bringing any reproach

Let us love those who serve with us