

 (Eph 2:10) For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

- (Mat 20:20) Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to him with her sons, and kneeling before him she asked him for something.
- (Mat 20:21) And he said to her, "What do you want?" She said to him, "Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom."

- (Mat 20:22) Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?" They said to him, "We are able."
- (Mat 20:23) He said to them, "You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father."

- (Mat 20:24) And when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers.
- (Mat 20:25) But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.

- (Mat 20:26) It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant,
- (Mat 20:27) and whoever would be first among you must be your slave,

 (Mat 20:28) even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

1. You have been created to serve Christ.

"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10

2. You have been saved for Christ's work.

"It is He who saved us and chose us for His holy work, not because we deserved it, but because that was His plan long before the world began..." 2Tim1:9

3. You have been gifted for Christ's service.

"As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

1Peter4:10

4. You have been challenged to serve Christ.

"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus... (who) made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant..." Phil2:5-7

#### 5. You will be rewarded for serving Christ.

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward." Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV)

#### Coming up in this sermon series:

- Spiritual Gift
- Heart
- Abilities
- Personality
- Experiences

\* 3 fountains of serving God

#### The three 3 fountains of serving God



- (Mat 20:30) And behold, there were two blind men sitting by the roadside, and when they heard that Jesus was passing by, they cried out, "Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!"
- (Mat 20:31) The crowd rebuked them, telling them to be silent, but they cried out all the more, "Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!"

(Mat 20:32) And stopping, Jesus called them and said, "What do you want me to do for you?"

(Isa 6:8) And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."

1) Availability



1) Availability

**Barrier #1: Selfcenteredness** 

(Php 2:4) Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others

1) Availability

**Barrier #2: Perfectionism** 

(Ecc 11:4) He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap.

1) Availability

Barrier #3: Materialism

(Mat 6:24) "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

 (2Ti 1:9) God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,

2) Gratefulness

(Ps100:2) Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

(Act 5:41) And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.

2) Gratefulness

Barrier #1: Comparing & Criticizing

(Rom4:4) Who are you to criticize someone else's servants? The Lord will determine whether His servant has been successful

2) Gratefulness

Barrier #2: Wrong motivations

(Col 3:23) Whatever you do, work heartily, as fo the Lord and not for men,

(Mat 25:21) His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'

3) Faithfulness



3) Faithfulness

Barrier #1: Discouragement

(Psa 42:5) Why are you cast down, 0 my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation

## You are Shaped by God to serve God

- The 3 fountains that sustains serving:
- 1) availability
- 2) gratefulness
- 3) Faithfulness