

 (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.

Coming up in this sermon series:

- Spiritual Gift
- Heart
- Abilities
- Personality
- Experiences

You are Shaped by God to serve God

- The 3 fountains that sustains serving:
- 1) Availability
- 2) Gratefulness
- 3) Faithfulness

Ministry: shârath

shaw-rath'

A primitive root; to attend as a menial or worshipper; figuratively to contribute to: - minister (unto), (do) serve (-ant, -ice, -itor), wait on.

Paul's message before describing gifts

 (Rom 12:3) For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

 (Joh 13:3) Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God,

 (Joh 13:4) rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist.

1) Servants believe that their identity is in Christ



"In order to be of service to others we have to die to them; that is, we have to give up measuring our meaning and value with the yardstick of others.... Thus we become free to be compassionate."

-Henry Nouwen-

1) Servants believe that their identity is in Christ



2) Servants believe others are more important



- (Php 2:5) Have this mind among yourselves, which
 is yours in Christ Jesus,
- (Php 2:6) who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,
- (Php 2:7) but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

2) Servants believe others are more important



3) Servants believe they are stewards, not owners

- (1Co 4:1) This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.
- (1Co 4:2) Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.

 (Luk 16:13) No servant 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."

3) Servants believe they are stewards, not owners

4) Servants are mindful of their own service, not the service of others

- (Luk 10:40) But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me."
- (Luk 10:41) But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things,

4) Servants are mindful of their own service, not the service of others

5) Servants believe that ministry is an opportunity, not an obligation

God rewards serving

- (Joh 12:26) If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.
- (Heb 6:10) For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do.

 (Psa 84:10) For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

- 1) Servants know their identity is in Christ
- 2) Servants believe others are more important
- 3) Servants believe they are stewards, not owners
- 4) Servants are mindful of their own service, not the service of others
- 5) Servants believe that ministry is an opportunity, not an obligation

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