

MOTIVATED TO SERVE

JULY 16, 2023

EX. 9:1

When it comes to serving God, we can be motivated by: guilt, pressure, obligation, duty, even manipulation. But God wants us to serve Him for right reasons revealed to us in scripture. My message is not to produce guilt, pressure or to manipulate anyone. It's to present truth and let the spirit of God speak to our hearts about what God would have us to do.

A Matter of the Heart (ROM. 12:11 NIV)

Serving God is not about what we do, it's about why we do it. Our service is all about the heart. It's about passion, zeal, intense desire and fervency of spirit. How passionate am I? What's my zeal level? Does my enthusiasm need a boost? Over the years, our zeal can diminish if we let it.

BIBLICAL MOTIVATIONS

- 1.) A major purpose of life (**Mk. 8:35 TLB**). One hasn't begun to really live until he realizes he was created to serve His creator. God created us, saved us, and gave Himself for us. Now, our response is found in **ROM. 12:1-2 KJV, TLB**.
- 2.) Christ's example (**MT. 20:28 TLB**). By serving, we imitate Christ. **PHIL. 2:5-8 TLB** These verses should influence our attitude, and how we think about ourselves.
- 3.) It's the best way to use our freedom (**GAL. 5:13 NLT**). Paul called himself a love slave for Christ. He used his freedom to serve Him, who set him free.
- 4.) Reverence and Godly fear (**HEB. 12:28-29**). He's Abba Father, but He's also the Judge of all the earth (**HEB. 10:28-31 TLB**).
- 5.) The reward (**PHIL. 2:9-11**). Everyone who serves will be rewarded for his service (**MT. 25:21, REV 22:3**).
- 6.) The secret to greatness (**MT. 20:26 HCSB**). True greatness comes from servanthood, not from living for ourselves.
- 7.) Love and gratitude (**JOHN 21:15**). The best way to show love and gratitude is through servanthood.
- 8.) To promote unity (**1 COR. 12:12 TLB, PS. 133:1-3 NLT**).
Jesus said a divided house can't stand. When people are in unity, God's blessing is on the house. God's work is a supernatural work. Unity:
 - A.) Makes a highway for God to move (**ACTS 4:29-31**).
 - B.) Makes it easier to accomplish our goals (**GEN. 11:6 NLT**).
 - C.) Creates a force Satan can't penetrate (**ECCL. 4:12 NLT**).

Conclusion:

God wants to take us to another level. He needs our cooperation. We all must take our place and do our part.

Questions

- 1.) What is one way I'm serving right now?
- 2.) What is my motivation?
- 3.) Am I living my life with eternity in mind?
- 4.) Am I using my abilities for kingdom use?
- 5.) Am I being faithful in small things?
- 6.) Am I taking advantage of the opportunities I have?

