

"Beyond Calling" in serving the church:

The more we serve beyond our calling, the more we understand our purpose before God.

When our Lord Jesus saved us, he didn't just save us for heaven.

He saved us to LIVE for Him, to do WORKS in his name

2 Timothy 2:15

<u>Do your best</u> to <u>present yourself to God</u> as <u>one approved</u>, a <u>workman</u> who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

Context:

Paul was concerned about the growth & welfare of the churches and those who led them.

- Our call to discipleship goes beyond the waters of Baptism.
- Where we are striving to be our best in building self Spiritually
- Our best in building the church of God in its various aspects.

Q: How can I give God my best- I DO UNDERSTAND there is GRACE BUT, How can we excel beyond our normal service to HIM?

Q: Do you ever take time, week in and out to see HOW we can excel in service to Him?

Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV):

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

POINT: I don't know what motivates you, whether it's WORKING for God or it's the REWARD?

The focus of what we do in the church of God, is GOD himself!

2.1 Peter 4:<u>10-11</u> (NIV):

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ."

Church, I want to stop here and say that our service in the church is not simply about completing tasks but about fulfilling God's purpose for your life and impacting others positively.

POINT: Every act of service is an opportunity to HONOR God

- I WANT TO COMMEND all those who are working hard in the church, serving
- From those who are constantly evangelising...INCASE You haven't noticed, our Attendance has really been growing every week.
- At the moment we have a great number of people studying the Bible.
- Teens who are committing their lives to God.
- There are those who serve others silently.
- Fundraising Team, Land Committee. Etc.

ALL THESE ARE WHAT PLEASES GOD – GOING BEYOND THE CALL TO BAPTISM Serving in God's church is widespread. Let's talk about SERVING on THE BOARD

Its serving Beyond The Call of Duty.

1Co. 12:28 And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues.

Bible is so organised and logical to follow – every leadership position has qualifying factors.

SOME EXAMPLES:

<u>Elders</u> (shepherds / oversees / bishop / presbyter.) Who desires to be an elder.

1 Tim 3:1-7

Vrs 5. "if anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of Gods church."

Deacons

8-13.

Examples 1. Of qualities put into practise.

Acts 6:3

Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them

Qualifications we find here:

• Full of the spirit Wisdom.

Example 2

Exodus 18 Jethro gave advice to Moses. "listen I will give u some advice..."

Qualities:

• 1./capable men 2./fear God 3./trustworthy – who hate dishonest gain

Example 3.

2Tim 2:2

An evangelist gives instructions to a younger evangelist on how to build a "leadership team" FGL

Qualities: 1. Reliable men. "who are Qualified"

Would have a trained mechanic or enthusiast look at your car?

Example 4.

Mark 3:13 "Jesus chose those he wanted"

Remember He prayed about it in Mark1.

Do you think he qualified people.....you want to bet.

Looked for faith, fear God, vision, people he could work with.

Now we can take these principles and build qualities for Gods church board.

Everything revolves around and comes back to spirituality.

What are the characteristics of a spiritual person?

1./ Love for God – daily prayer & times in the word.

2./ Love for his church (Math 13 "see the church as a treasure"/ Acts20:28 "be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood."

Would people say you serve in God church / love those in gods church / don't miss Sundays, midweeks & family groups/humble / teachable.

- 3. Want to become more like Christ. Seek spiritual people in your life run after discipling / mentorship....there is a spiritual focus no matter what life stage...married, parent or single.
- 4./ Build unity team player.
- 5./ Bringing a talent onto the board (taxes / finances / peoples skills / vision / communicator etc.)
- 6./ Personal finances 1 Tim 3:5 "if you don't know how to manage your own finances, how can you take care of the churches finances."
- in debt (owe money)...have no plan to get out of debt, keep borrowing.
- if you have divorced "faith" from your "finances". Dont give to God sacrificially 10% is the starting point. First fruits.
- 7./ IN GOOD STANDING WITH THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CHURCH.