



World Conquerors Church
Where You Discover Who You Were Born To Be!
www.worldconquerorschurch.org
2017: THE YEAR OF NEW PERSPECTIVE

Serve & be served

Presented by Staff Pastor Anindya Kar

Sermon Notes from August 27, 2017

Our Example

Mark 10:35-45 (Amplified Bible Classic Edition, AMPC)

35 And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Him and said to Him, Teacher, we desire You to do for us whatever we ask of You. 36 And He replied to them, What do you desire Me to do for you? 37 And they said to Him, Grant that we may sit, one at Your right hand and one at [Your] left hand, in Your glory (Your majesty and splendor). 38 But Jesus said to them, You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism [of affliction] with which I am baptized? 39 And they replied to Him, We are able. And Jesus told them, The cup that I drink you will drink, and you will be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized, 40 But to sit at My right hand or at My left hand is not Mine to give; but [it will be given to those] for whom it is ordained and prepared. 41 And when the other ten [apostles] heard it, they began to be indignant with James and John. 42 But Jesus called them to [Him] and said to them, You know that those who are recognized as governing and are supposed to rule the Gentiles (the nations) lord it over them [ruling with absolute power, holding them in subjection], and their great men exercise authority and dominion over them. 43 But this is not to be so among you; instead, **whoever desires to be great among you must be your servant, 44 And whoever wishes to be most important and first in rank among you must be slave of all. 45 For even the Son of Man came not to have service rendered to Him, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for (instead of) many.**

To serve as God intends, we must understand...

➤ God is love.

1 John 4:16 (New Living Translation, NLT)

We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.

- **This is one of the core tenets of the Christian faith...that God loves us. We cannot truly operate fully in our gifts, in our calling, in our service, if we do not understand and receive that God loves us. Without understanding of His love for us, we will not trust His love, which means we will not trust Him. You'll only be willing to weather the storms, the trials and tribulations, in your faith walk and in your service, if you trust God's love for you.**

1 Corinthians 13:3-8 (The Message, MSG)

3-7 If I give everything I own to the poor and even go to the stake to be burned as a martyr, but I don't love, I've gotten nowhere. So, no matter what I say, what I believe, and what I do, I'm bankrupt without love. **Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love doesn't strut, Doesn't have a swelled head, Doesn't force itself on others, Isn't always "me first," Doesn't fly off the handle, Doesn't keep score of the sins of others, Doesn't revel when others grovel, Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth, Puts up with anything, Trusts God always, Always looks for the best, Never looks back, But keeps going to the end.** 8-10 Love never dies.

- **This is what love looks like.**

To serve as God intends, we must understand...

- **God desires love to be the motivation of our heart in all things, and especially in serving.**
- **Because we cannot serve God or one another effectively or with longevity and endurance, if we don't understand that serving requires love. Without love, we serve from a place of the law "Oh I have to do this" "Can't believe they need me to help with this again" rather than grace "It is a privilege for me to come and help in whatever capacity I am needed"**
- **Law is compulsion. Grace is provision.**
 - **Compulsion: (1) the action or state of forcing or being forced to do something; constraint: (2) an irresistible urge to behave in a certain way, especially against one's conscious wishes. The law was established to give us limitations to our behavior, to constrain us, and to give us a prescribed way to respond to our compulsions.**
 - **Provision: the action of providing or supplying something for use. Grace is God's provision for His ability to be at work in your life. God gives us His power, His ability, for our use to serve His purposes.**

Serve: defined

- **Serve: to obey and worship; to act in conformity to the law of a superior, and treat him with due reverence**

Romans 12:1 (Amplified, AMP)

Therefore I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies [dedicating all of yourselves, set apart] as a living sacrifice, holy and well-pleasing to God, which is your rational (logical, intelligent) act of worship.

➤ **Serve: To be sufficient for a purpose**

Romans 12:2-3 (AMP)

2 And do not be conformed to this world [any longer with its superficial values and customs], but be transformed and progressively changed [as you mature spiritually] by the renewing of your mind [focusing on godly values and ethical attitudes], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His plan and purpose for you]. **3 For by the grace [of God] given to me I say to everyone of you not to think more highly of himself [and of his importance and ability] than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has apportioned to each a degree of faith [and a purpose designed for service].**

➤ **Serve: to work for; to bestow the labor of body and mind in the employment of another**

Colossians 3:23-24 (AMP)

23 Whatever you do [whatever your task may be], work from the soul [that is, put in your very best effort], as [something done] for the Lord and not for men, 24 knowing [with all certainty] that it is from the Lord [not from men] that you will receive the inheritance which is your [greatest] reward. It is the Lord Christ whom you [actually] serve.

➤ **Do we habitually think in these terms? That whatever you do, work from your soul (putting your mind, will, and emotions in check, to position your whole selves into a posture of service), putting in your very best effort, as though God Himself is before you and you are doing it for Him? As though Christ Jesus Himself is before you and you are doing it for Him? Imagine that.**

God set us apart to Serve Him

Malachi 3:18 (AMP)

Then you will again distinguish between the **righteous** and the **wicked**, between **the one who serves God** and **the one who does not serve Him**.

Matthew 6:24 (AMP)

“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 mammon [money, possessions, fame, status, or whatever is valued more than the Lord].

Luke 16:13 (AMP)

No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will stand devotedly by the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve both God and mammon [that is, your earthly possessions or anything else you trust in and rely on instead of God].”**

- **We cannot serve God and mammon at the same time. If you think you can, you are deceiving yourself.**

God has given us dominion to reflect His likeness

Genesis 1:26 (New King James Version (NKJV), AMP)

26 Then God said, “**Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness [not physical, but a spiritual personality and moral likeness];** let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

- **Dominion: Sovereign or supreme authority; the power of governing and controlling.**
- **We think that because God gave us dominion, we can do what we want with it. But that was not the design. The design was for us to use our dominion to reflect God’s likeness, His spiritual personality (love, kindness, faithfulness, peace...) and morality.**

God set us apart to Serve Him

Galatians 5:13-26 (AMP)

13 For you, my brothers, were called to freedom; only do not let your freedom become an opportunity for the sinful nature (worldliness, selfishness), but through love serve and seek the best for one another. 14 For the whole Law [concerning human relationships] is fulfilled in one precept, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself [that is, you shall have an unselfish concern for others and do things for their benefit].” 15 But if you bite and devour one another [in bickering and strife], watch out that you [along with your entire fellowship] are not consumed by one another. 16 But I say, walk habitually in the [Holy] Spirit [seek Him and be responsive to His guidance], and then you will certainly not carry out the desire of the sinful nature [which responds impulsively without regard for God and His precepts]. 17 For the sinful nature has its desire which is opposed to the Spirit, and the [desire of the] Spirit opposes the sinful nature; for these [two, the sinful nature and the Spirit] are in direct opposition to each other [continually in conflict], so that you [as believers] do not [always] do whatever [good things] you want to do. 18 But if you are guided and led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the Law. 19 Now the practices of the sinful nature are clearly evident: they are sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality (total irresponsibility, lack of self-control), 20 idolatry, sorcery, hostility, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions [that promote heresies], 21 envy, drunkenness, riotous behavior, and other things like these. I warn you beforehand, just as I did previously, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit [the result of His presence within us] is love [unselfish concern for others], joy, [inner] peace, patience [not the ability to wait, but how we act while waiting], kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against

such things there is no law. 24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature together with its passions and appetites. 25 If we [claim to] live by the [Holy] Spirit, we must also walk by the Spirit [with personal integrity, godly character, and moral courage—our conduct empowered by the Holy Spirit]. 26 We must not become conceited, challenging or provoking one another, envying one another.

God set us apart to Serve Him

Deuteronomy 6:13 (AMP)

You shall fear [only] the Lord your God; and you shall serve Him [with awe-filled reverence and profound respect] and swear [oaths] by His name [alone].

As we serve God, He serves us by giving us EVERYTHING that we need...to keep serving

Philippians 4:13 (AMP)

I can do all things [which He has called me to do] through **Him who strengthens and empowers me [to fulfill His purpose—I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency; I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him who infuses me with inner strength and confident peace.]**

Philippians 4:13 (The Living Bible, TLB)

for I can do everything God asks me to with the help of Christ who gives me the strength and power.

Matthew 6:33 (AMP)

But first and most importantly seek (aim at, strive after) **His kingdom and His righteousness [His way of doing and being right—the attitude and character of God]**, and all these things will be given to you also.

Living the godly life is to serve and be served

2 Peter 1:2-4 (NLT)

2 May God give you more and more grace and peace as you grow in your knowledge of God and Jesus our Lord. 3 **By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life.** We have received all of this by coming to know Him, the one who called us to himself by means of his **marvelous** glory and excellence. 4 And because of his glory and excellence, he has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share his divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires.

- **Don't be afraid to live the life that God has called you to. It is not something to fear, it is something to embrace. He knows better than you do what will make you happy and make you feel fulfilled. So don't be afraid of God. Embrace Him. Learn His Love for you. Look for new opportunities to serve. Learn who you really are. God promises to be with you every step of the way; trust His love for you, and follow His lead. It's never too late to start.**