**The Servant of Christ**

**Overview**

The attitude of a servant has two spheres: what he is supposed to be (inward qualities) and what he is supposed to do (outward actions). When he strives to be who he is supposed to be, it will be much easier to do what he is supposed to do.

**Lesson Theme**

The concept of being a servant is an indispensable part of the Christian walk. Faithful, whole-hearted service is the joyous privilege of God's children.

**Lesson Objectives**

At the conclusion of the lesson, each student should:

1. Understand the relation between inward qualities of a servant that produce outward actions of service.

2. Determine to serve the Lord whole-heartedly and enthusiastically.

3. Wholly offer themselves as obedient, diligent, faithful servants to the Lord.

**Teaching Outline**

I. Inward Qualities of a Servant of the Lord

A. Whole-hearted service

B. Loving

C. Humble

D. Joyful

II. Outward Qualities of a Servant of the Lord

A. Obedient in his actions

B. Diligent in his duties

C. Faithful in his responsibilities

**Introduction**

The concept of being a servant is an indispensable part of the Christian walk. Even if we lack other desirable personal qualities, we must have the attitude of a servant to please Christ. The attitude of a servant has two spheres: what he is supposed to be (inward qualities) and what he is supposed to do (outward actions).

The word servant is one of the most accurate descriptions of our Lord Jesus. One biblical synonym for the word servant is "minister."

**MARK 10:45 -** For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.

**JOSHUA 22:5 -** Only be very careful to follow the commandment and the Law which Moses the servant of the Lord commanded you, to love the Lord your God and walk in all His ways, and keep His commandments and cling to Him, and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul.”

**Judges 2:10 -** All that generation also were gathered to their fathers; and another generation rose up after them who did not know the Lord, nor even the work which He had done for Israel.

**1 Chronicles 28:9** - As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him wholeheartedly and with a willing mind; for the Lord searches all hearts, and understands every intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will let you find Him; but if you forsake Him, He will reject you forever.

**1 Timothy 6:1** - All who are under the yoke as slaves are to regard their own masters as worthy of all honor so that the name of God and our doctrine will not be spoken against

**MATTHEW 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 one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

**Luke 4:8**" Jesus replied to him, “It is written: ‘You shall worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.’

A whole-hearted servant of the Lord is loyal to Him. Are we loyal to our Lord Jesus Christ, even when demonstrating that loyalty is costly?

**Galatians 5:13** - For you were called to freedom, brothers *and sisters*; only *do* not *turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but serve one another through love.

**HEBREWS 12:28-** Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let’s show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe;

**MARK 9:33-35** - They came to Capernaum; and when He was in the house, He *began* to question them: “What were you discussing on the way?” **34**But they kept silent, for on the way they had discussed with one another which *of them was* the greatest. **35**And sitting down, He called the twelve and \*said to them, “If anyone wants to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all.”

**MARK 10:43-45 -** But it is not this way among you; rather, whoever wants to become [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=MARK+10%3A43-45&version=NASB#fen-NASB-24626a)]prominent among you shall be your servant; **44**and whoever wants to be first among you shall be slave of all. **45**For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=MARK+10%3A43-45&version=NASB#fen-NASB-24628b)]life as a ransom for many.”

**LUKE 14:11 -** For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:18 -** in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.

**Romans 6:23 -** For all [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+3%3A23+&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28003a)]have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

**Romans 6:23** -For the wages of sin is death, but the gracious gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**LUKE 2:10-11 -** And *so* the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; **11**for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

 **1 THESSALONIANS 1:6 -** You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word during great affliction with the joy of the Holy Spirit,

**PSALM 16:11 -** You will make known to me the way of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; In Your right hand there are pleasures forever.

**Psalm 100:2** Serve the Lord with jubilation; Come before Him with rejoicing.

**Psalm 100:5 -** For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting And His faithfulness is to all generations.

**LUKE 17:7-10 -** “Now which of you, having a slave plowing or tending sheep, will say to him after he comes in from the field, ‘Come immediately and recline *at the table* to eat’? **8**On the contrary, will he not say to him, ‘Prepare something for me to eat, and *properly* clothe yourself and serve me while I eat and drink; and afterward you may eat and drink’? **9**He does not thank the slave because he did the things which were commanded, does he? **10**So you too, when you do all the things which were commanded you, say, ‘We are unworthy slaves; we have done *only* that which we ought to have done.’”

**1 PETER 2:18 -** Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and gentle, but also to those who are harsh"

**Titus 2:9** *Urge* slaves to be subject to their own masters in everything, to be pleasing, not argumentative,

**MATTHEW 5:41 -** Whoever forces you to go one mile, go with him two.

**COLOSSIANS 3:22-24 -** Slaves, obey those who are your human masters in everything, not with eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. **23**Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord and not for people, **24**knowing that *it is* from the Lord *that* you will receive the reward of the inheritance. *It is* the Lord Christ *whom* you serve.

**Ephesians 6:10-18** - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.

**1 CORINTHIANS 4:2** …it is required of stewards that one be found trustworthy.

Consider these three important aspects of faithfulness:

* Faithfulness is required (1 Corinthians 4:2).
* Faithfulness is reckoned (Romans 14:10).
* Faithfulness will be rewarded (Matthew 6:4, 16:27; 1 Corinthians 3:13-14).

**Extra Reading**

**Fitting examples of disloyalty in the Bible.**

Korah rebelled against Moses and Aaron (Numbers 16). God opened up the earth, and Korah and his gang were swallowed alive into the pit.

Absalom rebelled against his father David and tried to take the throne for himself (2 Samuel 15-18).

Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus Christ for thirty pieces of silver (Matthew 27:3-5).

**Fitting examples of loyalty in the Bible**

There are also those in the Bible who were loyal to the Lord when it wasn't easy or safe.

Daniel refused to defile himself with the king's meat and drink and was willing to trust God (Daniel 1). Later, for the sake of loyalty to God, he was willing to enter the den of lions (Daniel 6).

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to worship the golden image of Nebuchadnezzar and were thrown into the burning fiery furnace (Daniel 3).

**Fitting examples of faithful in the Bible**Hebrew 11

**Study Questions**

1. What are two specific characteristics that we need in order to serve God whole-heartedly?

2. Christ is the greatest example of humility. What are three ways you can think of in which He demonstrated humility?

3. What three outward qualities given in this lesson should mark a servant of the Lord?

4. A servant who only does what he is told is an "unprofitable" servant. How can a servant give more than 100%?

5. People serve for a variety of reasons-some pure and others selfish. List some possible motives for service (both good and bad). What words in your list describes your motives?

6. An effective servant of the Lord serves whole-heartedly. Would those who know you best be able to honestly say that you love the Lord with all your heart and give Him your all?

7. On a scale of one to ten, where would you rate your enthusiasm for obediently serving the Lord?

8. The most needful quality of a servant is faithfulness. In what ways can you grow in faithfulness to the Lord, your family, or your church?

**Memory Verse**

24 Only fear the LORD, and serve him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things he hath done for you.

1 SAMUEL 12:24