



Sermon Outline
July 30, 2023
Pastor Bryan Myers

Humble Service

Matthew 23, John 13

* What could possibly cause God to applaud?

*When does God see us? All the time, right? But could there be moments when God not only takes notice but may even offer us commendation for our behavior? What could we possibly do to receive Divine applause? Jesus made it very clear that God takes notice when we use what He's given us to serve His purposes and will personally affirm us for it. **That's Divine applause!***

1. God applauds those who steward His gifts well.
2. God applauds those who serve Him by serving others.
3. God applauds _____ service to others.

Matthew 23:1-3, 11-12 - Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples: "The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. So you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach...11 The greatest among you will be your servant. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

Why humble service isn't an automatic response:

1. Putting others _____ yourself is counterintuitive.
2. Humble service will require _____ of some kind.

You can't live a perfect day without doing something for someone who will never be able to repay you. – Mother Teresa

* Jesus _____ what He preached!

** When we feel vulnerable or when we're in trouble, we all have the natural tendency to look out for ourselves. But Jesus demonstrated something entirely different.*

John 13:4-5 - ...so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

* What can we learn from Jesus' example?

1. You have a servant's heart when serving in the most menial way _____ bother you.

** If you don't know where you came from then you probably have no idea where you're going.*

2. Demonstrating the humility to serve is not _____ for a Christ follower.

John 13:14-15 - Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

** A true test of our Christianity (Christ in us) is being characterized by service. – Jim Price*

3. The humbler the service, the _____ the commendation.

Philippians 2:9 - Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name...

4. One day the _____ significance of our humble service or lack thereof will be clearly shown.

Luke 13:29-30 - People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. **Indeed there are those who are last who will be first**, and first who will be last.

*** Jumping into serving is a lot like planting a _____!**