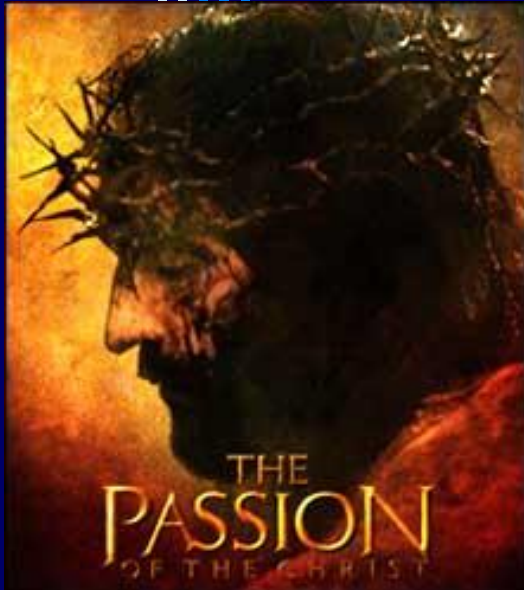


Christian Service

***Pastor-Teacher and Sheriff's
Chaplain, Ron McMurray***



Motivation for Christian Service is our Lord's Service





Goal of Christian Service

- To Know and Love God – Ephesians 3:19, “...to know the love of Christ”
 - Out of that knowledge and love, serve Him with all our hearts and minds (Deut. 6:5, Matthew 22:37).
 - Show others the love of God both in the Church and in the community.
-



I. Basis for Christian Service

Ephesians 4:11-12 God gave communication spiritual gifts
“for the equipping of the saints for the work of service”

Eph.4:12 *“for the equipping of the saints”*

KATARTISMON to adjust, to fit together, frame or complete for a given purpose, a fragmented believer is transformed into a consistent, harmonious, and effective servant in the BOC.

“for the work of service”- EIS ERGON accusative-
unto the end of the work of ministering, service. DIAKONIA is used in a general sense for Christian service.

Principle: Purpose of the communication gifts was to build up believers for ministry to one another (Romans 15:14, Col 1:28, I Thess 5:14). Sharing love and the compassion of Christ with other believers is our calling.



Basis for Christian Service

“unto the edifying of the BOC” – EIS OIKODOMEN
accusative -which means that the object of teaching the Word of God is the edification of believers. First step in Christian service is preparation of the believer so that he knows what the Bible teaches.

Edification means to build or construct a house; metaphorically it means spiritually building up the soul with sound biblical principles so a person is able to serve others. (Rom 14:19, I Cor 14:12)



Basis for Christian Service

4:13 *“until we all attain unity of the Faith”* When believers accept the same biblical truths the unity occurs in the Bride of Christ, the church. Ten areas of Theology (Bibliology, Angelology, Christology, Pneumatology, etc.)

“and of the knowledge of the Son of God to a mature man...fullness of Christ.”

4:14 Strong believers are not deceived by false doctrine, new “revelations”, or trickery of men.



Basis for Christian Service

□ Summary: Eph 4:12-14

Communication Sp. Gifts are to initiate and continue perfecting believers w/BD until 4 goals are reached:

- Unity in doctrine
- Full knowledge of Christ
- Maturity in the Body of Christ
- Comprehension of the fullness of Christ and His Church.

These 4 goals are foundational for Christian Service.



Levels of Christian Service

2. A mind filled with the knowledge of Christ must precede true Christian Service. (Mark 10:45 says Son of Man came to serve).
- Immature service – Occurs from salvation thru early stages of spiritual growth thru adolescent stages. (I John 2:12-13).
 - Mature service – Sp. Maturity (I Jn 2:14)
-



Christian Service

- Two Options for Believers:
 - Seek to serve self for our benefit
 - Live as servants out of a faith relationship with the Father thru Christ.

 - Matthew 6:24 *“No one is able to 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. No one is able to serve God and possessions.”*
-



Christian Service

- Principle: The purpose of serving others is to set them free to love and serve God, not to make them our servants or to serve our wants and needs.



- John 13:1-5, 12-17 Illustrates the servant's heart – foot washing.
Service does not diminish Christ or us.
Philippians 2:5-8 Humility in Christ is our example to follow.
-



Christian Service in EMS

- Chaplain represents God to cops, fire, and EMTs. Chaplain should be able to explain some of the great mysteries of life and death to officers and EMS.
- Chaplain does not preach, rather he answers officers questions, “It’s not fair, why did that baby have to die?” Answer: “I don’t know but I am here for you.”
- Chaplain meets with cops for breaks and lunch, contact at office, on the road where biblical answers can be addressed.



Christian Service in EMS

- ❑ Chaplain is to be open to everyone (atheists, Christians, Jews, Muslims, etc.) to give counsel or religious advice, if asked. No favoritism.
- ❑ Chaplain is on call 24/7, day or night for whatever the need.
- ❑ Chaplain is not to criticize or take sides in political or personal disagreements.
- ❑ Chaplain is not to criticize actions of L.E. officers, the administration, or fellow chaplains.
- ❑ Chaplain is not to speak to news media.





Christian Service in EMS

- Yearly national training seminars (Suicide, DV, Terrorism, Mass Casualties, Cop Family, etc.)
- Trains in many areas that police receive such as weapons, self defense, domestic violence, criminal law, traffic law, criminal procedures, ethics, marriage and family issues, etc.
- Chaplain also trained in death counseling, suicide prevention & intervention, on scene suicides, and suicide follow up.
- Member of Red Cross Disaster Response Team, CAC, APS, CPS, Rotary.

Christian Service in EMS

- Availability to anyone who wants to talk
- Counseling L.E. Officers, Fire, EMS
- Confidentiality-Privileged Communic.
- Referral to other Professionals
- Co-operation with other Chaplains
- Ride along with officers, in office daily, training sessions, assist in crisis or emergency response, deaths (suicides, fatal collisions, violent and sex crimes, LODD)



Christian Service in EMS

- Trained in CISM and CISD, crisis reaction, death notifications, stress management, post traumatic stress, post shooting trauma, grieving process, alcoholism, listening and communication skills.
- I go when the cops ask and try to assist them in their work. I often do the things they don't have time or hate to do.





Christian Service in EMS

- Chaplains have to earn their place among emergency personnel (may take years).
 - Cops are suspicious due to their training so it takes time to be accepted by them.
 - Chaplains go where they are needed so they have to be “real” not a phony. Every chaplain must be a pastor but not every pastor can be a chaplain.
 - The blood and violence of police work is hard to take. Cops need to talk to someone about their stress.
-



Christian Service in EMS

Chaplain rides along with officers both as chaplain and reserve deputy.

- Can provide back up for officers if needed or as another witness for the incident.
- Works with corrections officers and inmates. Visits to jail to calm prisoners down. As reserve deputy he can also take inmates to court or counsel them in jail.



"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil" Psalm 23

Christian Service in EMS

- ❑ Cops and EMS personnel must have thick skin. They often hammer each other unmercifully when someone makes an error in judgment. (“Are you stupid or what?”, often shunned).
- ❑ If you are unable to deal with cynical behavior, feeling “outside the loop”, or are highly offended by everyday offensive language, you need to prepare yourself mentally to work in EMS.
- ❑ Police agencies are military organizations which means there is always an authority over you. Learn to fit into the chain of command.



Christian Service in EMS

To SURVIVE a cynical environment you must have a strong set of moral or religious beliefs, ethics, know your purpose and don't lose OBJECTIVITY.

- ❑ Learn to tolerate teasing about your life, way of doing things, the way you look, your personal habits, your parents, your friends. Cops will “be there” for you in time of need.
- ❑ Must maintain the higher perspective that cops are the sword of God in a society. They keep things from total chaos and anarchy.

Christian Service in EMS

- ❑ Chaplains gather information for death notifications on the scene of tragedy.
- ❑ Child Abuse – may contact CPS, ATV, pastors, parents, friends.
- ❑ Chaplain will also observe at the scene and may do supplemental report for deputy
- ❑ Assist children and elderly at scene.
- ❑ Transport non injured to hospital, home, or to friend's home (opportunities for evangelism as you seek to help).





Christian Service in EMS

- Visit to victims and families, attend funerals
- Visit with juvenile offenders and victims
- Plan stress management seminars, debriefing seminars, CISD
- Help cops deal with anger, guilt, resentment, remorse.
- Follow up visits to survivors in hospital.
- Hospital Chaplaincy





The End



Service Concerns

- People often serve from their own neurotic need for approval or to gain significance.
 - Some simply want to be served and cared for but do NOT want to know Who Christ is and What He has done for them. Not willing to wash feet of others.
 - Pastors need to serve the flock by teaching, example, shepherding, and counseling, not seek their own comfort at the expense of the congregation.
-



Conditions That Hinder Service

- Desire to feel important.
 - Seeking one's self worth based upon opinions of others.
 - Seeking happiness from the world rather than the Savior and His purpose for one's life.
 - Developing some type of human strategy for service rather than a biblical strategy.
-



Christian Service and Discipleship

3. Christian Service begins with discipleship.

MATHATES means someone who is a learner of truth or doctrine. The disciples of Christ were believers but were ignorant of divine truth.

- ❑ Disciple means a person is personally involved w/biblical teaching that shapes his life as long as he remains with that teaching.
 - ❑ Disciples of John the Baptist – Matt 11:2
 - ❑ Disciples of Pharisees – Matt 22:16
 - ❑ Disciples of Moses – John 9:28
 - ❑ Disciples of Paul – Acts 9:25
 - ❑ Disciples of Christ – Matt 5:1
-



Disciples

4. Types of Disciples - A disciple is an individual who has been recruited for God's purpose to fulfill a course of action. Disciple is like Christ but does not become Christ (Matt 10:24). He does not assume the authority of Christ nor of the apostles.
- True disciples of Christ were closer to Him than His earthly family. Mt 12:46-50.
 - Superficial disciples – Judas Iscariot – Jn 12:4, false followers – Jn 6:66.
-



Types of Disciples

- True disciples of Christ are those who do the Father's will (Matt 12:50ff), submit to their leaders (Matt 14:22), abide in Christ's words and makes it part of his daily life patterns (John 8:31).
 - Categories of Disciples: deserters such as Judas, true (John), secret (Jn 19:38), growing (Jn 12:16).
 - Jesus technique for strengthening His disciples: teaching (Matt 5:1ff, 11:1), allowing questions (Mk 10:10, Lk 8:9),
-



Types of Disciples

- On the job training (Matt 9:19-23), learning to witness, deal with the religious crowd, job assignments (Matt 10:1, 14:19, 15:36 serve others), given special assignments (Lk 6:13, 17).
- Disciple of LJC advances in CWL when he applies BD to his life. Does not allow family to interfere with his service. Matt 8:21-23
- Is able to deny his wants in order to continue his service. Matt 16:24 “Take up cross” - denies temptations of occupation with the details of life, pleasures, status symbols, and family clan demands on his time, (“Aren’t you coming to the party?”, 10th one this year!).



Types of Disciples

- Often a disciple's love for Christ is misinterpreted as rejection for the family by family members. (Luke 14:26). Why? Because his service or mission may require him to miss family gatherings. He must reassure them that he loves them and enjoys being with them. Ephesians 6 says "Honor your father and mother".
-



Disciples

5. Disciples manifest their discipleship by love (John 13:35) and bearing fruit (John 15:8).
 6. One disciple is not to mind the business of another disciple. John 21:20-22. We cannot objectively evaluate the service of others.
 7. “Christian” was substituted for “disciple” in the early church. Acts 1:26
-



Disciple

8. Every believer's standing order from Christ today is to make disciples. How?
Matt 28:19 evangelize, remember the authority relationship but do not lord it over disciples, teach them.

 9. Pastor's responsibility is to train people to disciple others. Pastor is to remain open for questions, provide opportunities for on the job training, warn against false doctrines, spell out what it means to take up the cross!
-



Consequences in Absence of True Service

- ❑ Self-seeking believers become jealous, envious which results in disunity and division. Luke 22:24-30, Phil 1:27, 2:2
 - ❑ Failure to get involved in the ministry. In John 13 Jesus washed the disciple's feet. Disciples would not offer to wash feet of other disciples.
 - ❑ Burnout of those who are ministering and have little or no help.
 - ❑ Church fails in their call to evangelism and edification due to lack of ministering people.
-



Consequences

- Absence of service leads to playing power games and spiritual king of the mountain. This leads to infighting, bitterness, contention, and divisions.
 - Absence of service means lack of true humility. In I Peter 5:5 we are told to clothe ourselves in humility towards one another...
-



II. Categories of Christian Service

- Spiritual Gift service
 - Royal priesthood
 - Royal ambassadorship
 - Invisible historical impact
 - Laws of divine establishment
-



III. Spiritual Gift Service

- Sp. Gift received at salvation – I Cor. 12:11
I Peter 4:10 *“as each has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another...”*
 - All sp. gifts are discovered through learning BD.
The permanent Sp. Gifts listed: Rom 12, I Cor 12, Ephesians 4. (Listed later in study)
 - All Church Age communication gifts given to men only – Apostle, Evangelist, PT.
Exception in pre-Canon period was prophecy for some women had the gift, (Acts 21:9 virgin daughters of Philip).
 - Post Canon Comm. Gifts (After 96 A.D.)
Evangelist, PT, Teacher. – Eph 4:11-16
-



Spiritual Gift Service

- Gift of Helps – service to other believers, sick, handicapped, afflicted, poor, homeless.
- Gift of Administration – service in organization, leadership in church
- Gift of Exhortation – service in encouraging, challenging believers
- Gift of Counseling – service in giving others sp. viewpoint to persecuted bels, criminals, addicts, abuse victims, hospitality included.
- Gift of Finances – service in \$\$\$ support
- Gift of Wisdom – service in seeing Hand of God in all circumstances, incidents.
- Gift of Service – Rom 12:7 –Christian service organizations, teaching children in local church. May be a part of the gift of Helps.



IV. Royal Priesthood Service

- Every believer is a priest at point of salvation. I Peter 2:5-9, Rev 1:6, 5:10, 20:6.
- Priests represent themselves before God
- Priests offer intercessory prayers for others, invisible ministry of service.
- Giving \$\$\$ is part of your privacy PH function.
- Priests offers spiritual sacrifices of Hebrews 13:10-18 – CSB, separation, praise, thanksgiving, divine good, sharing, obedience to sp. leaders teaching, prayer, honorable conduct.



V. Royal Ambassadorship Service

- Every believer is appointed to ambassadorship at salvation. 2 Cor 5:20, Eph. 6:20.
 - Ambassadors rep. God to a lost and dying world, appointed by God to tell others about the Savior, Jesus Christ.
 - Ambassador's written instructions are the mystery doctrines of Church Age.
 - Ambassador has heavenly citizenship and does not belong to this world. (Phil. 3:20, Eph 2:19). We live in devil's world behind enemy lines only to serve our Lord's interests.
-



Royal Ambassadorship Service

- Ambassador must apply BD to daily experience and not take insults personally (ridicule, apathy, doubt, persecution).
 - Ambassadors are recalled when war is about to break out. The Rapture is when we are recalled then Trib. wars occur.
 - Ambassador service includes:
 - Witnessing
 - Sp. Gifts
 - Missionary function
 - Christian adminis.
-



Test of True Ambassadorship

- ❑ Self focused service concerned with big gains, numbers, statistics, and the “big deal”.
Christ focused service does not distinguish between large and small but welcomes all opportunities to serve.
 - ❑ Self focused service requires external rewards. Christ focused service is content to remain hidden.
 - ❑ Self focused service picks and chooses whom to serve. Christ focused service ministers faithfully because there is a need.
-



VI. Invisible Impact Service

- Spiritual growth determines impact and is dependent upon FHS, applic BD to experiences, love for God as a motivation factor.
 - Invisible impact relates to the angelic conflict. As the Holy Spirit produces DG through you then angels are challenged by your attitude and service for Christ.
 - Your impact in your area is dependent upon how the Lord Jesus Christ can use you to promote the mystery doctrines.
-



Invisible Impact Service

- Once the believer understands the mystery doctrines (#1 priority) then the Spirit leads you into situations where you need to apply them.
 - Continual focus upon BD will keep you from being distracted by false concepts: [James 2](#)
 - “You study all the time but do nothing.”
 - “I am involved in ABC but what are you doing for Jesus.” = w/o BD then dead works.
 - Emotional involvement rather than a sound BD foundation from which to build service.
 - “I don’t see any fruit-bearing in your life.”
-



Concepts of Service – James 2

- 2:14 The question: Can faith without works deliver someone? Can a non-working, dead faith save or justify, vindicate a person?
 - Faith 1 – faith in Christ for salvation. Not the faith used in James 2. Salvation does not depend upon works.
 - Faith 2 – believed truth or doctrine. This is the faith in James 2 used to vindicate our faith.
Is a believer allowed to be contented with just being saved and never producing good works, (or have no Christian service)?
-



Concepts of Service

- James 2:15-17 Illustration

Faith without works (Christian Service) is dead. If no compassion for others then faith is not working.

- 2:18 Opposition speaks: “show me you faith w/o the works, and I will show you my faith by my works.”

- 2:19 God is one. Monotheism is a fundamental belief of Judaism but if it does not produce good deeds it is dead.



Concepts of Service

- 2:20 Faith without works (Christian service) is useless.
 - 2:21-24 Abraham had been a believer for 30 years when he was told to sacrifice Isaac. Abraham passed his test and his faith was matured when he followed through. He was called “friend of God.” (Hebrews 11:17).
 - 2:25- Rahab justified (vindicated) by her service to God by hiding Hebrew spies.
 - 2:26- Body without life or the spirit is dead, so faith w/o service is dead.
-



Invisible Impact Service

- ❑ Believers w/o BD foundation never understand the issue of production and spiritual skills.
 - ❑ Spiritual skills are: Confession of sin, Faith Rest life, Occup. w/Christ, Filling/Control Holy Spirit, Indw Christ, Living in Word, Soul Rest, nor any other divine operating assets that enable the believer to have service or works, yet they “judge and malign” you.
 - ❑ The mature believer will have greatest impact on angelic and human history through his love for God and service.
 - ❑ Mature believer offers blessing by association to others w/o them knowing it. (Ex: Job’s kids were blessed by association with him, Gentile nations blessed by association with Paul)
-



Invisible Impact Service

- Historical Impact to the gentile nation by mature citizen believers (Apostle Paul's impact on Asia, Rome, Spain).

They understand that the Lord controls history and He alone determines national blessing and prosperity in function of gov't., law enforcement, military, economic and cultural concepts. W/O mature believers in Christian Service a nation enters into 5CD due to violating Laws of Divine Establishment.

(Leviticus 26, Deut. 28:49-67, theological liberalism, gay rights, abortion, criminal rights over victim's rights, etc.)



Invisible Impact Service

- International Impact occurs when mature missionaries take the gospel to other nations. Sometimes soldiers on foreign battle fields act as missionaries. Internet Christian websites act as missionary outreach opportunities.
- Angelic Impact occurs as the believer is a witness for Christ against Satan in his appeal trial during human history. (I Peter 1:12 angels examine evidence against Satan from your life), (I Cor 4:9 Paul said he was a spectacle for the angels), (Eph 3:10 mystery docs revealed to angels in Church Age) , (I Tim 5:21 be impartial in evaluating elders before the angels). This is the greatest area of glorification to God and it occurs through Christian service.



Invisible Impact Service

- Mature believers divine good is unseen by humans but seen by billions of angels. DG revealed at the JSC (I Cor 3:11-15). This is when you will realize that all the time spent in Bible class and applying the Word in Service was worth it! Gold for service promoting the deity of Christ. Silver = promotion of humanity of Christ & work. Precious Stones = fruits of the Spirit production in Christian Service.
 - During the Post Canon Church Age period the angelic conflict is invisible. We do not have contact with angels so our impact on them is invisible.
 - Heritage Impact is association with the mature believer after his death. He leaves blessings for next generation and this is often why the wicked prosper (Ps. 37:16, 35-40, 94:3-23). This is how morons gain power.
-



VII. Laws of Divine Estab. Service

- LDE provides mature believer with opportunity to perform divine good in certain spheres of life (job, profession).
 - Eph 6:5-8 “Slaves” – Christian labor
“*obey your masters (management) with respect and maximum effort...if he does anything good (divine good, service)...*”.
-



Law of Establishment Service

- Col 3:22-25 “*Labor, obey human management...*” Believers are to labor as unto the Lord, for it is their service of divine good. Men-pleasing is human good and non rewardable.
 - LDE function in gov’t positions:
Military, Law Enforcement, Gov’t such as elected representatives, intelligence organizations i.e. CIA, FBI, Drug Task Force (Romans 13:1-6)= Sword of God in society.
 - Obedience to LDE require paying taxes (Romans 13:7) to support Sword of God and government.
-



VIII. Principles of Christian Service

- The only legitimate production in the grace plan of God is called AGATHOS.
 - Agathos or Divine good is the only standard of Christian service that meets God's divine standards. (Eph 2:10)
 - Divine good is the production of the Holy Spirit through the believer in 5 areas: spiritual gift, royal priesthood, ambassadorship, invisible historical impact, laws of divine establishment. These are activated in your area of Christian Service.
-



Principles of Christian Service

- ❑ Carnal Christians are only able to produce human good service that becomes dead works and enables evil to thrive.
 - ❑ Dead works are rejected and burned at the JSC because they are not Holy Spirit sponsored. I Cor 3:11-15 wood (false docs re:Christ), hay (false docs re:humanity and work of Christ), stubble (substitute of affection, emotionalism, and human charisma for Holy Spirit's works)
 - ❑ Spiritual Christians produce divine good works that glorify Christ and enables grace service to thrive.
-



Principles of C.S.

- Spiritual skills (BD resident in soul) must precede production skills (Christian service) for the performance of divine good.
 - Christian service is the result not the means of maturity.
 - The first C.S. responsibility of every believer is to learn BD. From there the believer performs visible and invisible service.
-



Principles of C.S.

- Under the LDE certain things are not evil in themselves: **humanitarianism, altruism, philanthropy, brotherly love, reformation, public welfare as functions of government.**
 - Helpful gov't programs done with proper motivation are good for a nation (Prov 25:21, Isa 57:7, 10, Ezek 18:7-8, 16-17, Rom 12:20). Proper motivation includes freedom from self promotion for both bels and unbels. Any bel. involved in these must be FHS.
-



Principles of C.S.

- Humanitarian acts are never a permanent solution to the problems of mankind (Duet 15:11, Matt 26:11, Mk 14:7, John 12:8) due to the OSN corrupting the best intentions.
 - The ONLY permanent solution for a nation's problems are salvation in Christ, and sp. maturity followed by Christian Service.
 - Danger of C.S. is preoccupation with service to neglect of BD.
-



Principles of C.S.

- For example, working for the YMCA is not rewardable Christian service unless the believer is FHS and applying BD each work day = divine good.
 - Remember Eph 2:10 *“For we are His creation, having been created in Christ Jesus for good of intrinsic value good deeds (AGATHOS) that God has prepared in advance that we should walk by means of them.”*
-



IX. Motivation for C.S.

- ❑ Bels are to be motivated from their spiritual growth to serve = divine good.
- ❑ The FHS + Applic. BD to experiences = spiritual maturity is the motivating factor.

Romans 14:16-18

- ❑ True C.S. is performed with eyes on Christ and His glory not on people. Eph 6:6-8, Col 3:23-24.
- ❑ False motivation includes complaining, maligning, gossip, slander, disputes.
- ❑ Philippians 2:13-14 –We work for God’s good pleasure so do all things without grumbling or disputing so we may prove ourselves blameless and untainted by evil, above reproach in the devil’s world. We are to be lights in the world.



Motivation for C.S.

- Motivation has to do with your attitude towards serving Christ wherever He assigns you (geographical will of God).
 - False or carnal service removes any rewards. I Cor 3:11-15. Losers do not lose their salvation but lose rewards.
 - Some believers will receive the 4 crowns for their growth and service while others will receive ashes (dead works burned).
-



X. Crowns for CWL Service

- Crown of Glory – I Peter 5:1-4 – crown for faithful study and applic of BD to life, reach sp. Maturity. First Service Crown. W/O this no other crown can be gained.
 - Crown of Rejoicing – I Thess 2:19 faithful believers who hold to sound BD when under attack, evangelism. This crown can be lost if cave in to opposition and do not take advantage of the “open door”. Rev 3:11
 - Crown of Life – James 1:12, Rev 2:10, 2 Tim 2 (endurance). Enduring long term undeserved suffering and loss of material things but continue your service.
 - Crown of Righteousness – II Timothy 4:8 Remaining faithful and mature until death.
-