

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Aug 17, 2014



What It Means To Be A Servant

We live in a culture in which most people are seeking their own interests first, and if they have time, or if it ultimately helps themselves, they might consider helping someone else. By nature, we are selfish creatures. We desire praise and honor. We want to be first. We enjoy being served.

The problem is that this is antithetical to the behavior of a Christian. It's the opposite of whom Jesus was and who we are to be. Jesus had to correct his disciples when they were guilty of the same selfish ambition ([Mark 10:35-45](#)). In that passage, he tells them a principle that we see in so many places in Scripture: we are to be servants. He gave himself as the example to follow when he said, *"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many"* (vs. 45). So what does it mean to be a servant? How do we follow Christ's example and become a servant?

First, we must develop the attitude of a servant. This is perhaps the greatest barrier of all to being a servant. As stated before, we are naturally selfish beings. Plus, we live in a culture that is permeated with the message, "Serve me!" To develop the attitude of a servant, it takes a determined desire to consider others first. *"Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others"* ([Phil. 2:3-4](#)). Jesus is again the example for this type

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).

**VISITORS,
WELCOME!**

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

1:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes for all ages & Pew Packers each Sunday at 12:30

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ELDERS

Billy Bland

Seth Daniel

Jim Jackson

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

Joe Owen Tim Wilkes, II

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

of attitude, for he thought of us instead of himself when he took *“the form of a servant,”* and when *“he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross”* ([Phil. 2:7, 8](#)).

The underlying motivation for being a servant is love. That’s why Jesus was willing to give up his position of honor and glory in heaven and come in the form of a servant. That’s why he was willing to die. Because he loved us. It’s why we should serve one another. Paul said, *“Through love serve on another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself’”* ([Gal. 5:13-14](#)). If we truly love our brother, then being a servant will be much easier to do. In fact, we’ll *want* to serve.

Secondly, know what you need to do to serve. A servant can only serve when he knows what he needs to do. Some servants wait until they’re told what to do, and if they aren’t given any specific instructions will fill their time with their own desires. But good servants, those who truly enjoy serving and want to serve, will not wait until they’re told what to do. They’ll look for a task that needs doing and do it.

In order to be this kind of servant, you must get involved. The old adage is true: the more you put into something, the more you get out of it. When you determine to get involved and look for those opportunities to serve, you won’t be disappointed. Opportunities abound to be a servant of others. But you’ll never see them or know about them unless you make the effort to be involved in other people’s lives, in the church, or in the community.

Thirdly, serve! It’s not enough to know what to do to be a servant; we must actually serve! Sometimes, this comes down to the first point of having the attitude of a servant. We may know what we need to do, but we don’t want to because of selfish reasons. Other times, we end up making excuses, allowing other things to get in the way of serving. How many times have we have felt badly knowing that we could have and should have served in some way but procrastinated or got busy with our own activities and therefore missed the opportunity to serve? It’s not that we didn’t want to or that we didn’t love the person. We just didn’t make the effort. *“Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin”* ([James 4:17](#)).

We need to constantly remind ourselves that this life is not about us. It’s not ...

... about our own pleasures. It's not about work. It's not about school. It's not about what we may find important to us. It's about God, and it's about others. The two greatest commandments are to love God with all our hearts, soul, and mind, and to love others as ourselves ([Mark 12:29-31](#)). So when we have the attitude of a servant and know what we need to do, then we need to take the initiative and actually serve. Let's not make any more excuses.

Having the attitude of a servant will totally change the way we view every relationship in our life. It will change the way we view our church family and the reason we belong to a local church. Instead of focusing on what we get out of our relationships or out of the worship service, we need to focus on what we're putting into it. We need to focus on helping others. We need to focus on giving God the honor and praise he is due and on exhorting our brothers and sisters. We need to follow the example of Jesus and serve. Who can you serve today?

—written by Marshall Reid

<http://www.bulverdechurchofchrist.org>

by love serve one another

1 John 4:7

Sermon Review

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

1. August 23: Memphis Redbirds Game
Not just for youth; for all ages!
2. August 29: Fifth Friday Youth Devo
@Andy & Molly's House
3. September 20: Bible Bowl -- 4 PM
4. September 27: Memphis Zoo Trip
Also for all ages!

REASONS TO REJOICE, PT 1

(Philippians 4:4)

- I. **Reward**
- II. **Erring Returning**
- III. **Jesus Has Come**

REASONS TO REJOICE, PT 2

(Philippians 4:4)

- I. **Others Rejoicing**
- II. **In Hope**
- III. **Christ Has Risen**
- IV. **Eternal Life**

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Georgia Bayless, admitted to Le Bonheur hospital for respiratory problems this past week; **Payton Jackson**, as he begins college; **Seth Daniel**, taking medication equivalent to chemo, which causes great fatigue and sickness; **Betty Tuggle**; **Helen Bowman**.

NetCasters
Fishers of Men
Far East Missions

Family & Friends

Family of Charlie Daniel, passed recently, cousin to April Kinney & Shelly Cates; **Sherry Hillam**, Betty Duke's oldest daughter, having to go through rehab following leg blockages; **Ray Hendrix**, lymphoma; **Carole Livsey**, Clifton's aunt, lymphoma; **Charles Savage**, recovering from cancer treatment; **Janet Colvett**, Jeffrey's mother, leukemia; **Trent Childers**, at home, recovering well; **Amanda Cummings**, young mother with cancer; **Danielle Key**, young mother with cancer; **Andy's grandmother**; **Carla Carlson**, cancer, continuously receiving chemo; **Janie Brister**; **Ava Roten**, **Brett Rutherford**, **Jason Spencer**; **Frankie Burfield**, cancer; **Jack Higginbotham**; **Tasha Higginbotham**, on donor list for kidney transplant; **Lauren Harrell**, breast cancer; **James Cooper**, Jan's brother, cancer; **Marie Sims**; **Renee Loya**, Parkinson's, MS, & dystonia; **Eli Williams**, cancer returned, receiving treatments; **Ray Maples**; **John & Anita Simpson**; **Martha Hatfield**, Lynn's grandmother, stage 4 cancer; **Virginia Johnson**, stage 4 lung cancer; **Joy Angel**, various health problems; **Linda Perkins**, leukemia; **Mac Owen**; **Bob Spurlin**; **Ally Jo Kelly**; **Brad & Sheri Daniel**.

Birthdays

8/10	Larry Campbell	8/21	Sue Cobern
8/15	Carolyn Davis	8/25	Addi Bayless
8/16	Clifton Angel	8/26	Jim Jackson
8/19	Helen Bowman	8/28	Jerry Davis
8/19	Ron Johnson		

Anniversaries

8/2 Jared & Rebecca Brown
8/5 Tren & Toranda House
8/6 Tim II & Rachel Wilkes
8/18 Ron & Anna Johnson

Get Involved!

Memphis Redbirds Game -- Aug 23

Sign up sheet on table in foyer
For all ages

Coldwater Singing -- Aug 27 -- 7 PM

Fifth Friday Youth Devo -- Aug 29

@ the house of Andy & Molly

5th Sunday Services -- Aug 31

Chris Herd, preacher from Australia, to preach AM & present about his work in PM

Bible Bowl -- Sep 20 -- 4 PM

Genesis 34 – 36

Coldwater Gospel Meeting -- Oct 19 – 22

Wayne Rodgers preaching
Theme: "His Grace Reaches Me"

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, August 17

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Jerry Davis
Announcements	Jim Jackson
Song Leader	Jared Brown
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Joe Owen
	Chris Martin
Assist	Daniel Owen
	Will Brooks
Opening Prayer	Jason Bayless
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Andy Ratliff

Afternoon

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Opening Prayer	Timothy Wilkes, Sr.
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Joe Owen
	Daniel Owen
Closing Prayer	Ron Johnson

Wednesday, August 20

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Prayer	Jeffrey Ferrell
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Johnny Bayless