

Back to the Basics of Serving

“As a new bride, Mary Jane moved into her new home with her new husband, Russ. And one of the first things she did was put a shoebox on a shelf in her closet and asked her husband Russ to never to touch it.

Well, for fifty years Russ left that box alone, until one day when Mary Jane was old and dying. One day when he was putting their affairs in order, he found that box again and thought it might hold something important.

So upon opening it, he found two handkerchiefs and \$82,500 in cash. So he took the box to her and asked about the contents.

And she explained, ‘Well, my mother gave me that box the day we got married. And she told me that I should make a handkerchief to help ease my frustrations every time I got mad at you.’

Well, Russ was very touched that in 50 years she’d only been mad at him twice.

But then he asked, ‘What’s the \$82,500 for?’

And Mary Jane replied, ‘Oh, that’s the money I made selling the handkerchiefs...at 3 cents a piece!’”

Now folks, how many of you guys would say that ol’ Russ there kind of had his eyes opened up to the condition of his relationship there? Uh huh! The \$82,500 gives it away! Whoa! Can you imagine that? Well folks, believe it or not, I see this same kind of **eye-opening experience** happening to Christians all the time. Only it’s not in their earthly marriage, it’s in their spiritual marriage with Jesus Christ! And it’s not when they find out that their spouse was mad at them the whole time. It’s when they consider

hanging out with God as if it were a **bad time**. Can you believe that? I wonder how many handkerchiefs God is making?

And so that's the obvious question, "How in the world did it ever get that way? How did it ever become a detriment to spend time with God, the Creator of the Universe? It didn't start off that way, right? I mean, when we first got saved, we couldn't wait to spend time with God, we longed for God, we really loved God, right? And so that's the question is, "How did it ever get like that?" Well folks, as we've been seeing, what I've learned over the years is it's simply this...when we **lose sight** of what we have in Jesus Christ, what He died on the cross for...the joy set before Him...**A beautiful loving intimate personal relationship that we could have with the Creator of the Universe. That's what He died on the cross for!**

And folks, I'm telling you, when we lose sight of that, all of a sudden, just like that, overnight, your once loving vibrant walk with Jesus Christ, just turned into dry, stale, stupid, boring, man-made religion called Churchianity. Not Christianity...Churchianity! And as we've been seeing folks, this is a deadly horrible wretched disease! It's rotten! It's totally rotten! And once you get infected with that thing, you start crying out one of two things. "Help! I'm a Christian and I can't grow up!" or "Help! I'm a

Christian and I'm dead as a stump!" You ever been there? Yeah, **unfortunately** it happens all the time!

Therefore, to stave off this deadly horrible disease called Churchianity, we're going to continue in our study called, **Back to the Basics**. And what we're doing is **revisiting** all the **Basics of Christianity** but this time, we're doing it **through the eyes of a relationship**, a loving relationship, a personal relationship with the Creator of the Universe! And so hopefully this time we can recapture the **right motive** for doing what we do as Christians **and this time...stay there!** Amen?

And so far we've already seen that the **first basic thing** we need to get reacquainted with through the eyes of a relationship was **The Basics of Prayer**. And last time we saw the **second basic thing** we need to get reacquainted with through the eyes of a relationship was **The Basics of Worship**. And what we saw there was that worship, i.e. singing to God, wasn't something mystical or magical that only a few super duper talented people or secluded monks know how to do. No! And it certainly wasn't a time for self-entertainment, a boring ritual, a focus on me-nees, or even silence! Are you kidding me! It's a way of expressing our daily passionate love affair with God, through music and song, just like in a normal loving

relationship. Amen? And as we saw, once you realize this, we're finally on our way to getting rid of this goofball Churchianity stuff, amen?

But that's not all. The **third basic thing** of Christianity that we need to get reacquainted with through the eyes of a relationship is **The Basics of Serving**. But don't take my word for it. Let's listen to God's.

Matthew 20:20-28 “Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Jesus with her sons and, kneeling down, asked a favor of Him. What is it you want? He asked. She said, Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at Your right and the other at Your left in Your Kingdom. You don't know what you are asking, Jesus said to them. Can you drink the cup I am going to drink? We can, they answered. Jesus said to them, You will indeed drink from my cup, but to sit at My right or left is not for Me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by My Father.

When the ten heard about this, they were indignant with the two brothers. Jesus called them together and said, You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave – just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.”

Now folks, according to our text, if you and I are going to be great in the Kingdom of God, what do we got to get busy doing? We got to get busy serving, right? What did it say there? “Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant,” right? And notice that it wasn't something that Jesus just said **to do**, this is what's amazing, listen, He said it was something that He Himself **did do!** I.E. He led by example! And this is what makes it so amazing. Put it into its context. **This is God**, the Creator of

the Universe, coming to not just serve, but to serve the very people who have rebelled against Him, who hated Him, and who are about to murder Him! Isn't that amazing! Isn't that **great** of Him to do? And so no wonder He says, if you follow in My footsteps **by being a servant**, just like Me, you're life is going to be something **great as well**, right? Of course!

And so here's the point. Surely that's what we're doing down here on earth, right? I mean, praise God, when we get an opportunity to serve other people just like Jesus we jump at the chance, right? Eeeench! Wrong answer! Folks, let's be honest. For most of us, when it comes to serving and having a servant's heart, we look at as an **insult** instead of a **blessing**. But people, here's the point. That's not what Jesus said! He didn't say if you have a servant's heart that you're a **pushover** or a **loser**. Are you kidding me? No! What did He say? He said you're a **winner** and your life is going to become something **significant** for the Kingdom of God! Therefore, let's get **Back to Basics!** Let's revisit this topic of serving **but this time** through the eyes of a beautiful loving intimate personal relationship with the Creator of the Universe! And let's dispel this goofball Churchianity stuff once and for all!

And the **first basic question** we need to ask ourselves if we're going to dispel this goofball Churchianity stuff is, "**Why Do We Serve?**" Let's take a look.

John 19:16-18,23,28-30 "Finally Pilate handed Him over to them to be crucified. So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. Carrying His own cross, He went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). There they crucified Him, and with Him two others – one on each side and Jesus in the middle. When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, I am thirsty. A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. When He had received the drink, Jesus said, It is finished. With that, He bowed His head and gave up His spirit."

Now folks, can I simply translate what I believe is the appropriate response to the question we posed, "**Why do we serve God?**" Let me see if I can be as blunt as I can...**BECAUSE HE DIED FOR US!!!!** Folks, **are you crazy!** This is what Jesus meant when He said in our previous passage, that He came to "give His life as a ransom for many." That's us! He came to **die for us!** That's how He served us!!! Do you get it? He gave His life as a ransom for us! He took the death penalty in our place! He gave His life so that we might live! **That's why** we should serve Him!

And folks, I'm telling you, if you look at this through the eyes of a normal relationship, not Churchianity, but a normal relationship, then this desire to serve Jesus in return makes total sense. For instance, let's say you

had a life threatening disease and you were about to die but your own brother stepped in and was willing to donate the precious organ that you so desperately needed to survive, but in the process, he died. You survived all right. You received the organ you needed. But he died in the process.

Now folks, let me ask you the obvious question, what would be your normal natural instantaneous response be for what your brother did for you? You would want to **do something for him** in return for what was **done for you**, right? With tears in your eyes, you would want to make sure that people never ever forgot about your amazing brother and his amazing love for you. People, in a nutshell, that's what Jesus has done for us. That's why we should serve Him. It's a logical natural response! And notice it's not because we **have to**, or because we're **told to**, or the Preacher made us **feel guilty**. No! It's just like in **a normal relationship**, like you and your brother, where you have a natural desire **to want to**, out of love and gratefulness.

Okay, **now flip it around**. Can you imagine if your brother's wife and children who were still alive saw and heard you reacting like this? Nahhhhh! I don't have time to talk about my brother? Brother who? Hey, get real! Why should I serve Him? What's the big deal! I've got stuff to do! I've...got...a...life...to...live...here...on...earth Some brother huh? Then

what do we think we're doing when we do that to Jesus? Some brother or sister, huh? Oh but that's not all. Now couple this with what Romans chapter five says about us and it really blows your mind!

Romans 5:6-10 "You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!"

People of God, the Bible clearly says that when Jesus died on the cross to provide the total absolute forgiveness of our sins, He did it for who? Not His best buddies. Not His friends. Not a brother like we discussed in the previous scenario. But who? For people like us who were considered powerless, ungodly, unrighteous sinners under the wrath of God, i.e. His enemies! Isn't that mind-blowing? No wonder He said, "For a good person someone might possibly dare to die," like that brother in the video scenario. But not with Jesus. "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." And we still say stuff like this? Nahhhhh! I don't have time for Jesus! Jesus Who? Hey, get real! Why should I serve Him? What's the big deal! I've got stuff to do! I've...got...a...life...to...live...down...here...on...earth!

Why should we serve God? Because just like in a normal healthy loving relationship, like those brothers, it's the logical, natural, grateful response. And once we realize this, we're finally in a position to get rid of this goofball Churchianity stuff, amen?

But that's not all. The **second basic question** we need to ask ourselves if we're going to dispel this goofball Churchianity stuff is, "**What is Serving?**" Well believe it or not folks, it's not that hard to understand, **if** you're not suffering from Churchianity. If you look at it through the eyes of a relationship, it makes total perfect sense. First of all, the word **servicing** comes from a the Greek word "diakonos" which is where we get the word "deacon" or "deaconate" from. And it literally means "to serve, to minister unto, or one who waits at a table offering food and drink." Or in other words, "a waiter." Or to put it in simpler terms, Crone translation, in the context of a relationship, **servicing** is simply **servicing other people out of love for what Jesus has served to us**. You know, eternal life! That's it! That's what serving is. Nothing more. Nothing less.

And one of the ways we can **express** this grateful attitude for what Jesus has served to us, is to **share this same service** with others. And again, just like last time with worship to God, i.e. singing love songs to Him as an expression of our daily passionate love affair with Him, God picked

something that we could all do. Not just singing, but now serving. If we want to **show our gratefulness** for how He served us, it's simple, we simply serve other people. And again, it's something we can do!

Matthew 25:35-46 “Then the King will say to those on his right, Come, you who are blessed by My Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited Me in, I needed clothes and you clothed Me, I was sick and you looked after Me, I was in prison and you came to visit Me.

Then the righteous will answer Him, Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You something to drink? When did we see You a stranger and invite You in, or needing clothes and clothe You? When did we see You sick or in prison and go to visit You? The King will reply, Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of Mine, you did for Me.

Then He will say to those on his left, Depart from Me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave Me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite Me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe Me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after Me.

They also will answer, Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help You? He will reply, Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for Me. Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

Now folks, according to our text, I think it's pretty clear. Jesus said that when we are busy serving others, in reality Who is it that we're really serving? We're really serving Him, right? **Why?** Because we're doing it out of love and gratefulness for Him for what He's done for us, right? Okay,

now flip it around. Apparently, this business of serving is no small matter. What else did He say there? He said that those who **refuse to serve**, are actually giving an indication that they're probably not even saved in the first place and are not headed to heaven, but to where? They're headed for hell, right? **Why?** Because as we saw before, the natural logical grateful response for the **true born again Christian**, is to want to **do something** for Jesus in response to what He's **done for us**, right? We're not trying to earn our way to heaven, because you can't. The Bible is clear about that. Rather we're so stinking grateful that He's served us with heaven, that we naturally want to serve Him in return. That's **what serving is**. Nothing more. Nothing less, and it's something we can all do.

In fact, let me demonstrate it to you based on this text. How many of you can get a cup of cold water for somebody who's thirsty? Well hey, guess what? You know how to **serve the Lord** whether you realize it or not. You have **the gift!** Or how many of you can get invite somebody over for supper and hand out some clothes? Well hey, guess what? You know how to **serve the Lord** whether you realize it or not. You have **the gift!** Do you get the picture? Jesus **did not say** that **only those** who are "incredibly talented" and "super duper spiritual" can effectively **serve Me** and show their gratefulness. No! He gave examples that are **common sense** and **easy for anyone to do!**

And so here's the point. Surely, that's what we're doing, right? I mean, surely we're demonstrating that we're true born again Christians and being totally grateful for what God's done and we're jumping at the chance to serve other people, right? Eeeench! Wrong answer! Folks, let's be honest. When it comes to serving, we don't look at it as something **joyful** to do, we look at it as something **dreadful** to do! And people, I'm telling you, once we arrive there, it not only prevents us from doing something significant for the Kingdom of God, but it leads to two horrible side-effects of Churchianity.

The **first side-effect** is **We Hide Behind Words to Hide Our Laziness!** Hey folks, I don't know if you've noticed or not, but we live in one of the laziest cultures in the history of mankind! It's lazy central! That's what we've become! A bunch of lazy people! And folks, here's what I've noticed. This lazy mentality is not just in the world, it's in the Church! Only we hide behind our words! For instance, I don't know if you've noticed or not, but did you realize that we Christians have our own secret language called Christianese? Uh, huh? For instance, if we tell somebody that, "Hey, at my Church, the worship music is awesome!" What we really just said was the "preaching stinks!" And then if we say the preaching was great then that means the worship stinks, right? You see, we've got our own code! And so when it comes to excusing away our laziness for not serving, we can't use

obvious lame-o excuses like the world uses...no! That's too obvious! We can't use stuff like this.

- I'd love to but...I want to spend more time with my blender.
- I'd love to but...the man on television told me to say tuned.
- I'd love to but...it wouldn't be fair to the other Beautiful People.
- I'd love to but...I'm building a pig from a kit.
- I'd love to but...I did my own thing and now I've got to undo it.
- I'd love to but...I'm attending the opening of my garage door.

No, no, no! We can't use those! We're Christians! We're supposed to be spiritual. Those are lame! **So here's what we do.** We hide behind our words to make it **sound** more spiritual. For instance, if we're asked to serve we say something like, "Well, I'd love to, but I just don't know what my gift is." Really? You've been saved for 9,323 years and you still don't know what your gift is? Well, how much of a gift does it take to stack a chair! Hello! How much giftedness does a person have to have to fold a bulletin! Come on people! Get real! What in the world do we think we're doing when we do this? And more importantly, as if God doesn't know what's really going on and all we're doing is hiding behind our words to hide our laziness, after all He's done!!! People, I'm telling you, it might be a tough cookie to

swallow, but once we finally **admit this**, we're finally in a position to get rid of this goofball Churchianity stuff, amen?

The **second side-effect** is **We Have this Idea that God Can't Use Us!** Now here's we go to the other end of the spectrum! You see, we might be out there **wanting to be used of God**. We want to **do something truly significant for Christ**. We want to **serve Him** for all He's done for us. But for some reason, we think that God can't use us because we've blown it either before we got saved or maybe even after we got saved. Christians still blow it you know, myself included. But people, this is what's so amazing about the Bible and the servants that God uses. Read your Bible, people! God uses **messed up people** in spite of themselves, just ask these so-called heroes of the faith!

- Moses stuttered.
- David's armor didn't fit.
- John Mark was rejected by Paul.
- Hosea's wife was a prostitute.
- Amos' only training was in fig-tree pruning.
- Jacob was a liar.
- David had an affair.
- Timothy had ulcers.
- Peter was afraid of death.
- Lazarus was dead.
- John was self-righteous.
- Naomi was a widow.
- Paul was a murderer. So was Moses.
- Jonah ran from God.
- Miriam was a gossip.

- Gideon and Thomas both doubted.
- Jeremiah was depressed and suicidal.
- Elijah was burned out.
- John the Baptist was a loudmouth.
- Martha was a worrywart.
- Mary was lazy.
- Samson had long hair.
- Noah got drunk.

People of God, whatever you do, don't give into the lies of the evil one thinking that somehow you have to be **perfect** before you can serve God. No! That's a lie from the pit of hell! If God can use a murderer, a liar, an adulterer, and a thief, praise God, He can use you and me! Amen? Isn't that's good news!!! You bet it is!!! And so the important thing is that **when we do serve** we do it out of love and gratefulness for all that He's done for us. That's **what serving is** people. Nothing more. Nothing less. And once we finally realize this, we're finally in a position to get rid of this goofball Churchianity stuff, amen?

But that's not all. The **third basic question** we need to ask ourselves if we're going to dispel this goofball Churchianity stuff is "**How Do We Serve?**"

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 "For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that One died for all, and therefore all died. And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again."

Now folks, according to our text, the Bible not only tells us that as Christians we **should** be living for Jesus, we all know that, but it tells us **what our motive should be** for living for Jesus, right? And that was what? Out of love for Him, right? His love for us compels us to serve other people with the same love we've received from Him! And again, if you look at it through the eyes of a relationship, it makes total perfect sense.

And that's why the **first way** we **do not** serve God, since we have a relationship with Him, is with **An Attitude of Timelessness**. And to help illustrate the foolishness of doing this in our personal relationship with God, let's take a look at it through the eyes of another personal relationship, my wife Brandie and I. And what I'm going to do is illustrate for you a scenario where I'm going to be asked by my wife to serve her with an attitude of timelessness and you tell me how it goes.

Brandie: "Hey Billy, I was wondering if you could help me with my car. I just pulled in the driveway and I think the transmission went out. If I don't get it fixed right away, then I'm not going to be able to get to work and I might lose my job. Can you take a look at it for me?"

Billy: "Oh, I'd love to honey but....I just don't have the time."

Brandie: "Really? Well, what are you doing right now?"

Billy: "Well, I'm watching a Bill's game. You see, last week, they finally got their first win. So this week I want to see if they can get...to two."

Brandie: "Oh...I see. Real important stuff. Thanks a lot...husband."

Or how about this scenario?

Brandie: “Hey Billy, I was wondering if you could help me with my car. I just pulled in the driveway and I think the transmission went out. If I don’t get it fixed right away, then I’m not going to be able to get to work and I might lose my job. Can you take a look at it for me?”

Billy: “Oh, I’d love to honey but....I just don’t have the time.”

Brandie: “Really? Well, what are you doing right now?”

Billy: “Well, nothing really, but I tell you what. It’s getting closer to January, so here’s what I’m going to do for you. I’m going to make a New Year’s resolution to help you more. Yeah, come January, you’ll see. I’m going to make a pledge to help you more. Isn’t that great?”

Brandie: “Oh yeah, that’s real great. How’s that going to help me now? I need my car fixed now! This is serious Billy! I could lose my job! Thanks a lot....husband.”

Or how about this scenario?

Brandie: “Hey Billy, I was wondering if you could help me with my car. I just pulled in the driveway and I think the transmission went out. If I don’t get it fixed right away, then I’m not going to be able to get to work and I might lose my job. Can you take a look at it for me?”

Billy: “Oh, I’d love to honey but....I just don’t have the time. And besides, am I the only husband around? You know, there’s a lot of other husbands in this neighborhood besides me you know. Can’t you get one of them to do it for you?”

Brandie: “Really? I’m married to you, and you’re my husband, and you want some other husband to fix my car? Thanks a lot....husband.”

Now that was pretty goofy, wasn’t it? How many of you guys would say that I am in **big trouble**? Can you believe that? I can’t help his wife but I can **watch TV** or **make a pledge to help in the future** or even try to **pass**

the buck off to **some other husband**? Nice help, huh? Nice husband is right! So folks, **here's the point**. What do we think we're doing when we do that to God? We would rather watch TV than serve Him, we always do those New Year's resolutions, and we keep trying to pass the buck off to some other Christian. I mean do we think He really doesn't notice? Nice servant, huh?

But that's not all. The **second way we do not** serve God is with **An Attitude of Selfishness**. For instance, what if I were to react like this when I was given a chance to serve my wife.

Brandie: "Hey Billy, I was wondering if you could help me with my car. I just pulled in the driveway and I think the transmission went out. If I don't get it fixed right away, then I'm not going to be able to get to work and I might lose my job. Can you take a look at it for me?"

Billy: "Oh, I'd love to honey but....I've got other more important things I need to do."

Brandie: "Really? Like what?"

Billy: "Well, the guys were wanting to go check out this new sports center that opened up and then on the way back we we're going to stop off at Reid's in the Land Far Far Away and have a cheeseburger eating contest. You know, guy stuff."

Brandie: "Really? My car is broke down, I might lose my job, and you're more concerned about sports and stuffing your face. Thanks a lot....husband."

Or how about this scenario?

Brandie: “Hey Billy, I was wondering if you could help me with my car. I just pulled in the driveway and I think the transmission went out. If I don’t get it fixed right away, then I’m not going to be able to get to work and I might lose my job. Can you take a look at it for me?”

Billy: “Oh, I’d love to honey but....I don’t think I’m going to help you anymore.”

Brandie: “Say what? Why not?”

Billy: “Well, you see, I’ve been helping you for many years now and I think it’s high time I take a break. I mean seriously, how much work can one person do? I’ve put in my time. No thanks. I’m done.”

Brandie: “Oh really. I’ve been here every day taking care of your needs and you’re going to quit on me. What ever happened to “Til death do us part?” Thanks a lot....husband.”

Now folks, how many of you would say that I am digging myself a huge hole? Uh uh! Big Time! Can you believe that? I can’t help my wife but I can **go to a new sports center and stuff my face and have fun** or I **flat our refuse to help** saying I’ve **already done enough!** I’ve put in my time? Nice husband, huh! So folks, **here’s the point.** What do we think we’re doing when we do that to God? We have time to do what we want to do but we don’t have time for God? Or we act like we can serve up to a certain point and that’s it? Nice servant, huh?

But that’s still not all. The **third way** we **do not** serve God is with **An Attitude of Defeatedness.** For instance, what if I were to act like this when I was given a chance to serve my wife.

Brandie: “Hey Billy, I was wondering if you could help me with my car. I just pulled in the driveway and I think the transmission went out. If I don’t get it fixed right away, then I’m not going to be able to get to work and I might lose my job. Can you take a look at it for me?”

Billy: “Oh, I’d love to honey but...I just don’t think I can help you anymore.”

Brandie: “Really? Well, why not?”

Billy: “Well, you see, my feelings got hurt...real bad. I mean, last time I helped you, you didn’t tell me how wonderful of a husband I was and that I was the best thing that ever happened to you. And then to top it off, the guy down the street criticized the quality of work I did for you and so I just don’t think I want to go through this pain anymore. It’s...it’s...unbearable.”

Brandie: “Oh really. Unbearable. I have to give you kudos every time you help me out and lay it on super thick, otherwise you won’t help me out? And then if somebody down the street, who has nothing to do with us, makes a comment about your help to me that you don’t like, then you’re going to quit on me? What’s that go to do with me? What’s that go to do with my car? I need my car fixed now! Thanks a lot...husband.”

Now folks, how many of you would say I am dead when I go home?

Uh uh! Big Time! Can you believe that? I can’t help my wife because **she didn’t give me 55 million compliments** or because **somebody criticized my work!** Wow! Nice husband, huh! So folks, **here’s the point.** What do we think we’re doing when we do that to God? We refuse to serve Him because people didn’t slap us on the back and give us 55 million kudos? Or we just flat out quit because someone made fun of what we did? What’s that got to do with serving God? It’s **Him** were supposed to be serving, not for the praises or applauses of other people!

People, if we're ever going to dispel this goofball horrible wretched disease called Churchianity, it is high time that we in the Church get back to serving God from the heart, out of gratefulness for what He's done for us. And I'm telling you, once we do, it's like we've finally got the right prescription glasses on to finally see the world as God sees it, and get busy doing something significant for Him. Oh, how our world would be a different place, if we'd only put on God's glasses and see all the opportunities around us to serve other hurting people with the same love that we ourselves received from Jesus in our time of pain. Do you get it? Then put the glasses on today. Let's get busy bringing a little piece of heaven, if you will, to earth right now. How about we get busy doing something significant for Christ? How about getting busy doing something great for His Kingdom? How? By opening our eye and becoming a servant, one person at a time, one opportunity at a time. Amen?

And people, here's the point. If you're reading this today and you're suffering from this horrible wretched disease called Churchianity and serving to you has become something dry, stale, stupid, boring, and the last thing on your list. Then I've got good news for you. It doesn't have to be this way! You see, sometimes before you can move forward in your walk with Jesus Christ, you just need to get **Back to the Basics, the Basics of**

True Serving. And start serving God out of love for Him for all He's done for us, amen? That's how we get rid of the disease.

To find the way to God, to understand the *truth* of God's Word, and to received the gift of eternal *life*, begin by repentance and faith through a prayer like this:

“Dear God, I understand that I have broken Your Law and sinned against You. Please forgive my sins. Thank You that Jesus suffered on the cross in my place. I now place my trust in Him as My Savior and Lord. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.”
