

Sowing Seeds of Service Sunday December 10, 2006

This season of the year when we reflect and celebrate the Incarnation – the God of heaven becoming man on earth.

The Incarnation is for transformation. God became a man – so that sinful man could be set free from sin and then changed into the likeness and image of God.

Philippians 2:1-11

Vs 5

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus

Have the same "mind-set", the same frame of mind, the same perspective on things, the same attitude – which Jesus had.

Though He was God, He did not consider it some thing to be held on to.

- 1. He emptied Himself and became a servant
- 2. He humbled Himself to carry out the greatest "act of service" in giving His life.

We must learn to let go of our "position, rights, etc." and become a servant. A servant serves – does deed/works/acts of service.

You empty yourself of your own position, status, right, privilege – what ever it is that you want to hold on to – and then humble yourself to serve.

Vs 9 "Therefore God has highly exalted Him...."

In the Kingdom of God, you need to step down, if you want to step up.

When you walk down the road of humility, God lifts you up by crowning you with honour from heaven.

Application

Teens N Twenties

• At home – sowing seeds of service toward your parents.

Personal example

Ephesians 6:1-3 Proverbs 1:8,9

• In Church – sowing seeds of service in church

Volunteer and doing things that need to be done.

• For Adult events (MEG, EWM, etc.)

Serving adults

1 Peter 5:5,6

Husbands & Wives

• Ephesians 5:18-22: The command for wives to submit to their own husbands is preceded by the command for all to submit to one another.



• 1 Peter 3:7,8

Professionals

- Intense competition among our peers
- Matthew 5:5
- Sometimes we have more confidence in our ability (and need) to assert ourselves, than in yielding (being meek) and trusting God to empower you to inherit the land (possess).

Business owners/Leaders

- The story of Robert O. Naegele Jr. (Owner of Rollerblade).
- My personal experience
- Leaders with a servant heart are the key

Sow seeds of service I call them seeds because a seed produces. Hebrews 6:10 1 Peter 5:6

I believe in practical Christianity...in faith that results in the transformation of daily life. James 1:26,27 2:14-17 1 Corinthians 8:1

If you say you are a servant of Jesus – let me see your acts of service – because a servant serves.

Conclusion

One of the greatest messages of the incarnation is found in the Philippians 2:5-11 passage.

There are people here who are just one step away from the miracle they need in their marriage, finances, careers, etc. That step is the Philippians 2:5-8 step. If you will lay aside your pride ("self-respect", "ego", "status") – let go of what you are holding on to, humble yourself and serve – God will grace you with honour form heaven.

When God graces your life with honour - miracles flow!



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