



Sunday, October 10, 2021
Pastor Don Denyes

Intro to Hebrews 9:11-14

Jesus, the Creator of heaven and earth, said of Himself, “The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:45). His act of service on our behalf took Him from the glory of heaven to the most degrading state of humanity—being executed on a Roman cross. This act of service glorified God and achieved for us the greatest good we could imagine—our redemption and reconciliation with God.

Because this was Jesus’s own example to us, a crucial way that Christians ought to respond is by serving one another. Indeed, Jesus also said, “Whoever would be great among you must be your servant.” (Mark 10:43). So, Jesus gave us the example of serving, and He re-orientes our understanding of greatness around serving. When He came to His final meal before going to the cross, His expectation was not to be served, but He humbled Himself and took up the wash basin and the towel to wash His disciples’ feet. That is true greatness.

So, as we think about the various needs in our church and in our community, how can you imitate Jesus’s example? How can you use the gifts He has entrusted to you by the Holy Spirit to build up the body—the church—and show the love of Christ to the on-looking world?

Context

As we move closer and closer to God’s presence throughout the book (headed for 12:22-24), service becomes a crucial aspect of how we understand and relate to God, and how we understand His calling on our lives. Here, service is presented as a general thought that logically follows the gift of a clean conscience. Later, it will be developed in more specific ways (10:24-25; 13:1-6, 16).

Read and Reflect *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

Read Hebrews 9:1-14

“Free to Serve”

The Problem 9.13

The Purging 9.14

The Purpose 9.14

Categories

- Called to serve
- Gifted to serve
- Enabled to serve
- How to serve

Opportunities to serve at South

- Awana substitute
- Sunday nursery – 2nd hour
- Helping in the kitchen
- Cleaning up after meals
- Saturate 48917
- Greeters and ushers
- A/V in the Creative Service
- People to make CDs for shut-ins
- High school – male leaders
- Chosen ministry
- Helping Hands
- City Rescue Mission (paid and unpaid opportunities)

Discuss

- 1) What are some reasons a professing Christian might not exhibit the “joy of the Lord”?
- 2) How does a guilty conscience impact the way we serve the Lord?
- 3) Read 1 Peter 4:10-12. What do you notice in this passage about how Christians should think about serving?
- 4) What are some ways you have been blessed by people at church who have served you?
- 5) What are some ways you have been blessed by serving others?