

Lead Me, Don't Drag Me To Serve God

A. We Need To Clearly Define Christian Service. (As opposed to worship)

1. The concept of service has become foreign to today's church culture.
2. Christians no longer have a biblical concept of servanthood. **I Cor. 6:19-20**
3. Years of affluence have created within us an attitude of entitlement.

B. This IS The Defining Problem Of This Generation Of Christians

1. Christians don't feel a responsibility to God serve God in physical ways. **I Cor 6**
2. If they refrain from sin and believe the right doctrine most feel no further burden.
3. Many feel imposed upon if asked to do any beyond attending, some once a week.

C. Many Church Leaders And Preachers Have Accepted This Attitude.

1. Office-bound teachers trained the preachers to be office-bound students.
2. The office-bound preachers train leaders to be classroom-bound leaders.
3. Classroom-bound leaders teach members ... and the circle keeps repeating itself.

D. Preachers And Church Leaders Must Change Their Concept.

1. The biblical concept is servanthood, **i.e.**, being owned by and obligated to God.
2. Service isn't just conforming to a system of doctrine and occasionally worshipping.
3. A servant does the bidding, the work of his master. We're obligated to work. **John 9:4**

E. The Change Of Concept Must Bring About A Change in Lifestyle.

1. Singularly or collectively, Christians who have no clear purpose don't grow.
2. Christians take their queue from their leaders. (When leaders evangelize daily ...)
3. If church leaders (preachers) don't view themselves as servants, members won't.

F. Preachers And Church Leaders Must Set An Example.

1. Those who set in their offices and study cannot expect the members to evangelize.
2. We must all understand our purpose and the purpose of the church, to seek and save.
3. No one can be allowed any position of leadership who does not fulfill our purpose.

G. Raise The Level Of Expectations

1. Defining faithfulness by church attendance is an erroneous, unbiblical standard.
2. We must set the example, teach a higher standard and challenge all to attain it.
3. People seldom exceed the expectations of their leaders.

H. Train Every Member For Action

1. Every member is commanded to be able to explain the gospel. **I Pet. 3:15 , 2:9**
2. Hold practice sessions in realistic settings. (Start with small things, e.g, a greeting)
3. Take members with you as part of your daily routine.

I. Organize Your Effort

1. Everybody's business is nobody's business. Be professional, give your best for God.
2. Make sure you involve everyone in some way. (unless a refusal to serve is stated.)
3. Keep good records and require everyone to be accountable. (including yourself)

J. Be Very Generous With Praise

1. By nature, people repeat that which is reinforced so acknowledge evangelism.
2. Praise effort, not just success. (Don't wait for some significant accomplishment.)
3. Never point out honest failures; just teach the lessons learned from it.

K. Keep The Congregation Revolving Around That One Goal - SALVATION

1. The objective is to create hearts that truly love the lost. (love that which God loves)
2. Every function of the church is in some way related to the saving of souls.
3. Glorifying God by glorifying His work is a way of thinking and it's a lifestyle.

L. Enter Into A Partnership With God.

1. The theme of the whole bible is salvation by grace through faith in the gospel.
2. God's objective in dealing with man has always been to reconcile them to Himself.
3. One cannot work with God without sharing the goal of HIS work, salvation.

M. God Used The Analogy Of Sheep For A Reason.

1. Sheep are lead, not driven.
2. Sheep follow the leader with whom they have a relationship.
3. When we follow God, we are seeking the lost, thus, when we are not seeking ...