

How Real Servants Acts

*Section 33
Pages 257-264*

**We serve God
by serving
others**

World - greatness = power, possessions, prestige, position - you can demand service.

Jesus - greatness = service

The **disciples** argued about who was greatest!

Church leaders still compete for the 'best seat'

Jesus called us to be **servants** - we use the term servant leaders, what does that tell you?



Having a servant heart is more important than knowing your shape - **God shaped us for service.**

Without a servant's heart you will use your shape to excuse yourself meeting other people's needs.

Shape might reveal ministry - servant heart reveals maturity.



God tests your heart by seeing if you will serve in areas you do not feel 'shaped for'. Anyone can be a servant - all it requires is character!



Real servants make themselves available to serve

Real servants are ready, like a soldier they are always ready for duty. They do not choose when it is convenient - they do what is needed even if it is not convenient.



**Sorry
for the
Inconvenience!**

Real servants make themselves available to serve

Are you available for God at any time?

Do you pick and choose what you would like to do?

Does God have to ask your permission to use you?



**Sorry
for the
Inconvenience!**

Real servants pay attention to needs

Servants are always looking for ways to help other people.

Gal 6:10 *Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.*

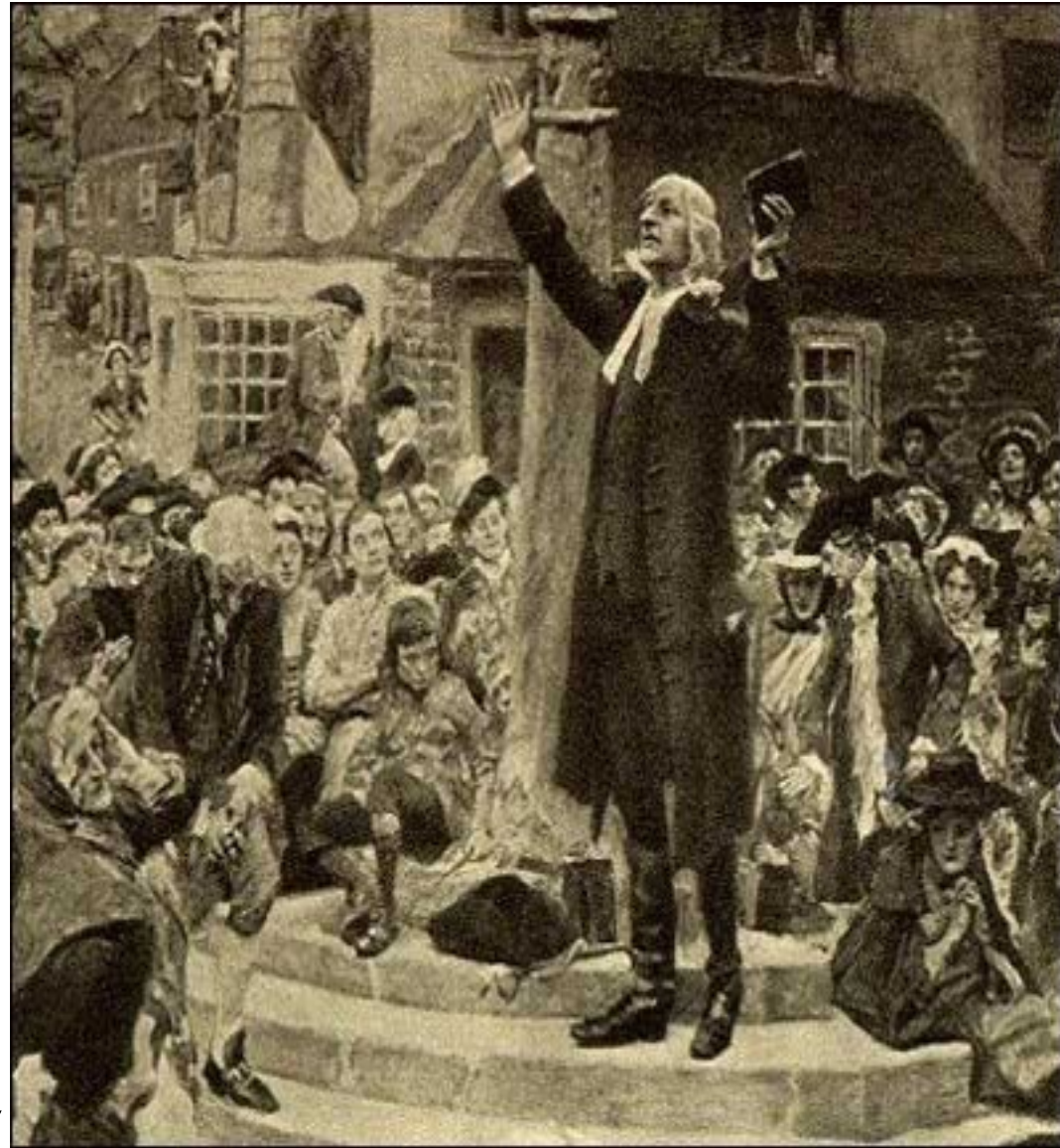


If God puts someone right in front of you he is giving you a chance to be a servant - to grow in servanthood. Such opportunities come and go - and we are often too slow to see them and take hold of them.

Prov 3:38 *Do not say to your neighbor, “Come back tomorrow and I’ll give it to you”— when you already have it with you.*

“Do all the good
you can, by al the
means you can, in
all the ways you
can, in all the
places you can, as
long as you can”

John Wesley



Real servants do the best with what they have

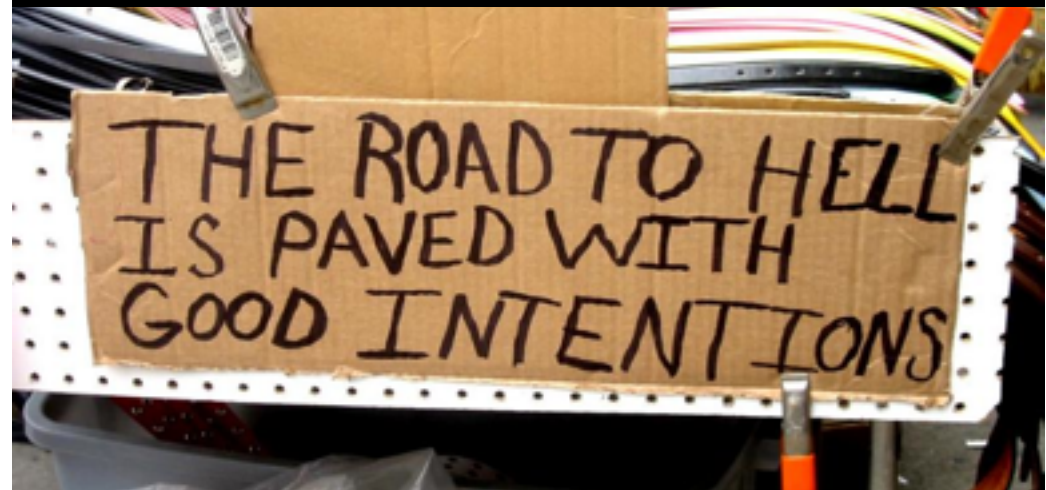
Don't wait for things to be right - get on with serving -
Ecc 11:4 - *Whoever watches the wind will not plant; whoever looks at the clouds will not reap.*

Less than perfect service is better than good intentions -
is it right to say if it is not done excellently it shouldn't be done?



GOOD INTENTIONS
bad results

ve/ MotivatedPhotos.com



Real servants do every task with equal dedication

Col 3:23 - *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters,*

The only question is: does this job need to be done? You are never too important for the menial tasks

Gal 6:3 - *If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves.*



Jesus did menial tasks - and he expects us to follow the example he set.

John 13:15 *I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.*

Paul gathered firewood when people needed to get warm.

Good opportunities often come in small tasks - most people wait for a “great” offer



Real servants are faithful to their ministry

Servants don't leave a job half done - they finish the task.

In many people real, strong commitment is sadly lacking - they make promises then give excuses for not keeping them



Real servants are faithful to their ministry

**Can you be counted
on to do what you
say?**

**Do you break a
promise?**

**Are you faithful to
what you said you
would do?**



Matt 25:23 - *“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’*

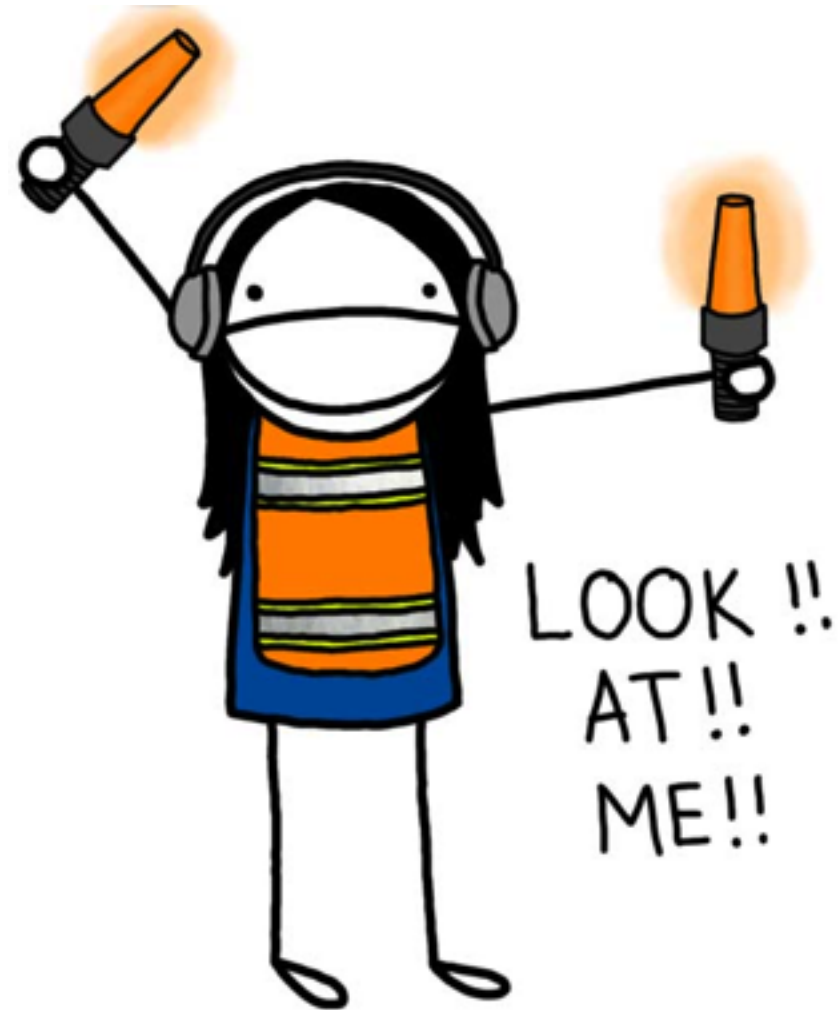
The Bible is full of faithful servants - are you one?



Real servants maintain a low profile

They do not call attention to themselves or to what they do.

1 Peter 5:5 - *In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."*



The Pharisees often wanted to draw attention to what they had done - **Matt 6:1** *“Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.*

Self promotion and servanthood do not mix - real servants usually avoid the limelight - **they are not celebrities.**



You might be in an obscure place
feeling unnoticed and
unappreciated - remember God
knows where you are

Col 3:4 TM - *When Christ (your
real life, remember) shows up again
on this earth, you'll show up, too—
the real you, the glorious you.
Meanwhile, be content with
obscurity, like Christ.*

In heaven there is a reward for
all you have done:



1 Cor 15:58 *Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.*

Matt 10:42 *And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”*



Point to ponder

I serve God by serving others

Verse to remember

Matt 10:42

And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”

Question to consider

Which of the 6 characteristics of real servants offers the greatest challenge to me?