Becoming A Mighty Servant Of The Lord

Joshua 24:14-27

WHY the <u>Constant</u> <u>Call</u> for Christians to <u>SERVE</u> in church?
1. It's <u>BIBLICAL</u>. (Ephesians 2:10)
2. It's How the <u>Body</u> of Christ <u>FUNCTIONS</u>. (1 Corinthians 12:7)
3. There's <u>GREAT</u> <u>JOY</u> in Serving the Lord.
4. We <u>REALIZE</u> ALL That Christ has done for US.

To "Become A Mighty Servant of the Lord," you must <u>KNOW</u> & <u>APPLY</u> FOUR important <u>PRINCIPLES</u> Of Service to your life:

1.   KEEP GOD IN HIS <u>RIGHTFUL</u> <u>PLACE</u> IN YOUR LIFE. (v.14a)
- *"Fearing God" makes us <u>MODIFY</u> our behavior.*
- *"Fearing God" helps us <u>OBEY</u> Him even when it doesn't <u>Make</u> <u>Sense</u>.*
- *"Fearing God" gives us <u>COURAGE</u> to <u>Stand</u> <u>Apart</u> from the crowd.*
- *"Fearing God" helps us <u>PERSEVERE</u> when we feel like <u>Quitting</u>.*
- *"Fearing God" reminds us of God's <u>BLESSINGS</u> in our lives.*
- *"Fearing God" <u>GENERATES</u> Authentic <u>Worship</u>.*

2.   MAKE A <u>LIFETIME</u> COMMITMENT TO SERVE GOD. (v.14b)
- More than anything else, *we need a <u>Return</u> to <u>Faithfulness</u> to <u>GOD</u>.*
- We need to ***<u>Follow</u> the Example of Jesus.*** (Matthew 20:28)
- A ***Life-Changing <u>Fear</u> of GOD <u>Translates</u>*** into a ***Lifetime <u>Commitment</u>*** to ***serve GOD!***
- God ***<u>Accepted</u>*** our commitment & He ***<u>Expects</u>*** us to Fulfill it.

3.   <u>GET</u> <u>RID</u> OF WHAT KEEPS US FROM SERVING GOD. (v.14b & v.23)
- Are there any "***<u>Foreign</u> gods***" trying to demand your ***<u>Worship</u>?***
- ***<u>Whatever</u> it is…it's gotta' <u>GO</u>!***
- Have you ***Allowed*** the ***<u>Distractions</u> of life*** to keep you from ***<u>Serving</u> God?***
- It's ***NEVER <u>Too</u> <u>Late</u>*** to ***<u>Stop</u>*** & get your ***<u>Priorities</u> in order.***

4.   WE MUST SERVE WITH A <u>THREE</u>-<u>FOLD</u> COMMITMENT. (vv.15-24)
- We must make ***<u>PERSONAL</u> Commitment – "As for <u>ME</u>…"*** *(v.15)*
- We must make a ***<u>FAMILY</u> Commitment – "and my <u>House</u>"*** *(v.15)*
- We must have a Total ***<u>CHURCH</u> Commitment –*** *(vv. 16, 21, 24)*
- ***"<u>WE</u> WILL <u>SERVE</u> THE LORD OUR GOD AND HIM ONLY WILL <u>WE</u> <u>OBEY</u>!"***

- The Desire to serve the Lord comes when we ***<u>Genuinely</u> <u>Place</u>*** our ***Faith & Trust in <u>Christ</u> alone*** for ***<u>THIS</u>*** Life & ***<u>ETERNAL</u>*** Life.