

The Right Attitude – Ephesians 6.5-9 Pt. 2

⁵ Slaves, obey your human masters with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as you would Christ. ⁶ Don't work only while being watched, as people-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, do God's will from your heart. ⁷ Serve with a good attitude, as to the Lord and not to people, ⁸ knowing that whatever good each one does, slave or free, he will receive this back from the Lord. ⁹ And masters, treat your slaves the same way, without threatening them, because you know that both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him (Ephesians 6.5-9, CSB).¹

Memory Verse – Serve with a good attitude, as to the Lord and not to people – Ephesians 6.7

“Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another” (I John 4.10-11, ASV).² God loved us right where we were, before we got better (Romans 5.8), and brought us into His kingdom through that love. We too must extend the same to everyone else.

Yesterday we started talking about the right attitude and how it starts with being a Unified Church Member, and being united as one body in Christ. The question was asked, “Are we willing to be this kind of Christian?”

Today we are going to look at the Right Attitude: Is Being A Sacrificial Church Member. Now what does this mean, how does this apply to us as teenagers, or even young adults. We understand older people being Sacrificial Church Members, but us? Come on!

First and foremost, we are all called to be sacrificial, we are called to have the same mind or attitude as Christ (Philippians 2.5), and what kind of mind or attitude did Christ have?

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. (Philippians 2.5-8, KJV1900).³

Notice what Paul writes in this passage, “Who being in the form of God...” in other words, Christ was God, God's Son. “...thought it not robbery to be equal with God:” Christ had no problem being on the same level with God, because as the apostle John says, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God (John 1.1, NASB95),⁴ Jesus Christ was God.

So, what was the mind or attitude of Christ? We find it in the following verses of Philippians, after we see Christ had every right to stay in heaven, to continue to remain on the throne, and in His position of power and prestige. But instead, He chose to ‘humble Himself,’ He made Himself of ‘no reputation’ and became human, not just any human, a servant someone who came to serve us.

He did not just humble Himself to become a servant or even a human, but He humbled Himself all the way to the point of death on the cross. For Christ had no sin, but God made him become sin so that in Christ we could become right with God (II Corinthians 3.21, NCV).⁵

See, the right attitude requires sacrifice; sacrifice from us to others. How do we show this kind of sacrifice, we could die for someone just as Christ died for us, but this is not really what Paul

¹ [Christian Standard Bible](#). (2020). (Eph 6:5–9). Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers.

² [American Standard Version](#). (1995). (1 Jn 4:10–11). Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

³ [The Holy Bible: King James Version](#). (2009). (Electronic Edition of the 1900 Authorized Version., Php 2:5–8). Bellingham, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

⁴ [New American Standard Bible: 1995 update](#). (1995). (Jn 1:1). La Habra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

⁵ [The Everyday Bible: New Century Version](#). (2005). (2 Co 5:21). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, Inc.

meant when he said, “have the same mind or attitude as Christ.”

He wants us to understand we need to be ready to sacrifice our own wants and desires for others. To put them ahead of ourselves, to think of them first and us second or third or last. This is what Christ did when He came from Heaven and died on the cross for us. He set aside His wants and desires and put us in the front.

This is why the Father exalted Him “to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Philippians 2.9-11, NIV).⁶

Our sacrifice must have humility in it, where we value others over ourselves. There should be no selfish desires or pride, which tries to use others to exult ourselves instead of them. We should care what is happening to those around us, and help them when we can. We must not only pay attention to ourselves by being inward focused but being outward focused (Philippians 2.3-4).

Sacrifice requires time and effort, it requires us to genuinely care for others, and to take a real interest in our neighbor, to love them as Christ loved us. To use the words of Paul as he spoke to husbands and wives, “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her” (Ephesians 5.25, NRSV),⁷ we should love one another in the same manner, willing to sacrifice ourselves for someone else just as Christ did for the church.

Thom Rainer writes, “You see, when we sacrifice, we are acting most like Christ. We are learning that the greatest joy comes when we put others before ourselves.”⁸ How right he is, Jesus said to His Father, “Not My will but Yours” (Luke 22.42), Christ was always looking to please His Father and sacrificing Himself for others. This is our example, having the Right Attitude being a Sacrificial Church Member.

Application

1. Have you been sacrificial to someone other than a family member? Please explain.
2. What did this sacrifice look like? How did it make you feel? Why did you do what you did? Please Explain
3. Deeper Thinking: Read I Corinthians 10, within this passage there are two messages Paul is trying to get across. Explain what they are and how each can be applied to some degree to being a Sacrificial Church Member? Be specific.
4. Commit to learning Ephesians 6.7 and find one person to share the Biblical Christmas Story with.

Prayer

I will praise you, LORD, with all my heart. I will tell all the miracles you have done. I will be happy because of you; God Most High, I will sing praises to your name. My enemies turn back; they are overwhelmed and die because of you. You have heard my complaint; you sat on your throne and judged by what was right.⁹ Lord give me wisdom to have a sacrificial heart and mind, to see places where I can be of help to others. And never put my wants and desires above theirs. Lord help me to be humble, meek and mild in all my ways, dealings and communications. I know at times I can be just the opposite. In doing these things help me to share Your gospel with others today and every day until Christ returns. I pray all this in Jesus Christ’s Name, Amen.

⁶ *The New International Version*. (2011). (Php 2:9–11). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

⁷ *The Holy Bible: New Revised Standard Version*. (1989). (Eph 5:25). Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers.

⁸ Rainer, Thom, S., (2015), *I Will.*, (pp. 18), Nashville, TN: B&H Publishing Company

⁹ *The Everyday Bible: New Century Version*. (2005). (Ps 9:1–4). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, Inc.