

# True Christian Service

**Any serious-minded Christian may at some time find themselves wondering whether the service they are giving to God is the best it could be.**

**A person may even at times have doubting fears that their toil is fruitless and empty.**

Christian service, like every other phase of religion, can become a very hollow affair. The church has marked out certain physical work and approved it a service acceptable to God, and for the most part the church has been right.

**But it should be kept in mind that it is not the kind or quantity of work that makes it true service, it is the quality.**

**2 Corinthians 5:10-12** [New King James] *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences. For we do not commend ourselves again to you, but give you opportunity to boast on our behalf, that you may have an answer for those who boast in appearance and not in heart.”*

**Before the judgement seat of Jesus Christ, very little will be heard of numbers or size, moral quality will be all that matters then.**

**If we are wise we will give attention now to the quality of our service.**

**1 Corinthians 12:4-11** [New King James] *“There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.”*

**Within any Church fellowship there are many diverse gifts given to believers by the Holy Spirit that make up part of the church’s service to the Creator God.**

Godly wisdom, power to express the deeper meaning of the Word of God, the gift of healing, the working of miracles or the ability to clearly expound the Word of God, the Christian Bible.

Two important statements are included in these scriptures, *“given to each one for the profit of all”* [verse 7] and *“distributed to each one individually as He wills,”* [verse 11].

**Matthew 7:21-23** [New King James] *“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’”*

**Using “religious” language, as did the Pharisees, is not going to impress our Creator, who is looking for obedience to His Word.**

**Luke 6:43-49** [New King James] *“For a good tree does not bear bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do*

*they gather grapes from a bramble bush. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks. But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say? Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great."*

**It is what is in the "heart" that motivates what we do that is important to our Creator God.**

**True Christian service must be fresh and sincere, whatever is done out of habit is not approved,** anything done in a perfunctory manner is below the level of quality expected of us by our Creator God.

**In Christian service motive is everything, for it is motive that gives to every moral act its final quality.**

**Philippians 2:3-4** [New King James] *"Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others."*

**What motivates us to serve the Creator God through serving other human beings must come from a humble heart, acknowledging that every good thing comes from the work of the Holy Spirit in us, [James 1:16-17].**

**Romans 5:1-5** [New King James] *"Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us."*

God's love for all human beings is shed abroad "through" [a better translation of the Greek preposition, meaning within but also flowing out from a person.]

**John 7:37-39** [New King James] *"On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, 'If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.' But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified."*

The "living waters" is the translation of the Greek word "zao" referring to living continually, [**John 4:8-15; Revelation 7:17**].