

Teaching Series: Living Rich
Part 3: Rich in Service

JESUS WAS RICH IN SERVICE

- Matthew 9:1-38 - Jesus serves the people by meeting their needs.
 - Jesus heals the paralytic and forgives him of his sins (9:1-7)
 - Jesus sits with “sinners” and calls Matthew to follow Him (9:9-13)
 - Jesus answers questions on fasting (9:14-17)
 - Jesus resurrects a dead girl and heals a sick woman (9:18-26)
 - Jesus heals the blind and mute (9:27-34)

- John 13:1-17 Jesus serves his disciples by washing their feet.
 - *“I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.”*

WHO DO WE SERVE? (2 Kings 17:24-41)

“Even while these people were worshipping the Lord, they were serving their idols” (2 Kings 17:41a).

- **Obstacles To Living A Life In Sincere Service**
 - A Religion Based On Fear: The Samaritans would have never thought of God had it not been for the lions (v. 25, 26).
 - A Religion Based On Compromise: The Samaritans had God but they also had “gods”; they liked the latter best. They gave God lip service, but they gave the “gods” their true service.

PRINCIPLES TO LIVING A LIFE RICH IN SERVICE

1. Make Yourself Available To What Matters Most
 - Servants do what’s needed, even when it’s inconvenient.
2. Do Every Task With Equal Dedication
 - Whatever they do, servants *“do it with all their heart” (Colossians 3:23).*
3. Finish What You Start
 - Servants finish their tasks, fulfill their responsibilities, keep their promises, and complete their commitments.
4. Keep It Quiet
 - Servants don’t promote or call attention to themselves. Instead of acting to impress and dressing for success, they put on humility and serve one another.
5. Continue To Serve Even When You’re Treated Like A Servant
 - Self-righteous service requires external rewards. It needs to know that people see and appreciate the effort. It seeks human applause. TRUE service rests contented in hiddenness. It delights in knowing the divine nod of approval is really all that matters.

Rick Warren: "What matters is not the duration of your life, but the donation of it. Not how long you lived, but how you lived."

1 Peter 4:10,11 - "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen."