

III. Lesson # 2: *Practice Servanthood*

- A. On servanthood it must be said that there are classes and service levels such as a servant to a king or a servant in the Army. All serving comes to a point of giving one's abilities, etc., to the furtherance of another party and/or the enrichment of others. It is a thoroughly commendable calling as may be seen in Mark 10:35-45, Luke 22:25-30, 1 Corinthians 7:20-23 (watch the context, however) as well as in the ministry of Paul and the other apostles. Somehow in our day there is a stigmatization on servanthood and I will try to discuss this in a calm and non exercised fashion---but it is hard.

The case studies in this category are::

1. Jeremiah and Baruch, Jeremiah 32
2. Elisha, 2 Kings 3:11, etc...a view of his ministry
3. The unnamed servant of 2 Kings 9...this party is a hero but in nothing less than working at a difficult time and situation.

B. The teaching:

1. Assisting others is a service to them, a development of one's own understanding, and a credit to God.
2. The achievement of leadership grows from the lessons of serving
3. The serving may be of the Herculean sort but it is most likely to be less than that and may even be unnoticed.. No problem.
4. Skill development and improvement comes with serving when done efficiently or/and meaningfully

C. Conclusion

The practice of serving should commend itself to us without argument. The Queen of Sheba said to Solomon..”Happy are thy men, happy are those, thy servants, which stand continually before thee and hear thy wisdom.” (2 Kings 10:8) If then it is easy to say that the king's servants are happy...those of the Lord _____ and almost anyone can finish that statement. Practice servanthood. You will be an encouragement to others, a credit to your calling, and a witness to the love and mercy of God who has so greatly served us all!