

WHY DO YOU SERVE GOD?

Deuteronomy 10:12 ... “And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways and to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.”

This is our final lesson on serving God. Previously we asked: “Where do you serve God,” followed by “When do you serve God.” Today we ask “Why do you serve God?”

As we noted earlier, you were created to serve God. Today’s verse commands Israel to serve God, and we are included in that people group by virtue of our adoption by Christ into God’s family the Jews. Furthermore, it says you are to serve him with “all your heart and with all your soul.” That makes this command as powerful and important as it can possibly be. However, we do not always obey God and do what he instructs us to do. It is possible to give the appearance of serving God, while secretly pretending to serve in order to receive the praises of men.

In our two previous devotionals we discussed where and when you serve God, and noted that those who claim to be serving God often do not prepare for ministry, or are not growing in Christ themselves, or do so only on church day. Sadly, many believers have ulterior motives for appearing to serve God. A young and pretty worship leader may accept the responsibility of leading worship so she can get the attention of boys. I have observed young ladies leading worship in dresses so short, and with disco dance moves so intense, that I felt I must look away. A man may become a pastor to avoid farm work. A member of the church may accept the position of Elder or Deacon, so he can influence the decisions of the board and increase his business. A lady may take on the job of leading the prayer chain so that she can have gossip to share.

When we ask “Why do you serve God?” we are asking you to compare your motives with the motives of God. You know what God commands, but are you serving God for his reasons or your own? Are you serving God in humility with all your heart and soul, or are you trying to impress people? If you are a good public speaker, musician, or singer, you must evaluate your motives very carefully and ask yourself if your motives for serving are pure. Talented people can easily be tempted to serve God for the praises of men, rather than God’s glory. The more talented, gifted and talented you are, the more careful you must be about your reasons for serving God, which must be for the right reasons, with all your heart and soul.

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