

The Year of Sowing

Prayer Guide

Week 37

The Year of Sowing – As a servant – Serving In the Church

But among you it will be different. Those who are the greatest among you should take the lowest rank, and the leader should be like a servant.

Luke 22:26 (NLT)



Prayer Focus: Servanthood is at the very center of the nature of the Church. Jesus taught that even those in leadership should be examples of being a servant to others in the Church. Jesus makes it clear that the Church is to be different than the ways of the world. The world seeks power and authority with which to rule over others. In contrast, the very nature of the church is that at every level, every function of the Church is based upon service. The New Testament teaches the need to meet the needs of those who lead the church, but the Church is not an organization with employees that need to be paid for their function. Rather, the Church is to be filled with people with a character and heart to serve, not for vainglory, or attention, but out of love for the Lord Jesus Christ, and His people (the Church). This does not negate compensating people for time and service, but the nature of the function of the church is fundamentally different than that of the world. In the next section we will talk about serving with our gifts. Our gifts are given to us to serve the function and growth of the other members of the Church. As every member serves with his or her spiritual gift, the Body of Christ is strengthened and grows. Our attitude should be to serve the Body of Christ, the Church so that the purposes of God will be fulfilled through the Church, the unsaved will receive Christ as Savior, and the Kingdom of God will be advanced for the glory of His Name. When the members of the Church are filled with this goal and vision, service is not about ourselves, but about Him who called us by His grace to be members of his Body to serve His purposes here on earth. There is no greater calling than this. If we will embrace it.

Day 1: Ask the Lord to give you a new vision of the purpose and honor of serving in His Church.

Day 2: Allow the Lord to search your heart for any wrong motives for serving as the Bible describes.

Day 3: Confess every false motive that God might reveal to you for why you are or not serving in the church.

Day 4: Consider making a commitment to the Lord to serve His Church with the true heart of a servant.

Day 5: Pray that every member of your church will seek the Lord regarding how to serve in the Church.

Day 6: Pray for other churches in your city to teach and practice these principles in their churches.

Day 7: Pray for the missionaries from your church to teach these truths to those they serve.