

BE WORKING, WATERING AND WAITING

I CORINTHIANS 3:5-9

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?



MARK 10:35-45

- Mark 10:41–45
- 41 And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John. 42 But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. 43 Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. 44 And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. 45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."



I CORINTHIANS 3:5-9

5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. 7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. 8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor. 9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building.

I. BEING A SERVANT (I COR. 3:5)

■5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but <u>ministers</u> through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one?

SERVANT – GK. DIAKONOS

- Vine's Word Study Denotes a "servant," whether as doing servile work, or as an attendant rendering free service, without particular reference to its character. A diakonos is a servant to his work where another Greek word, "doulos" talks about a servant to his master.
- Mark 10:44—45 And whoever of you desires to be first shall be <u>slave</u> of all. 45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

I. BEING A SERVANT A. ATTITUDE

- Isaiah 14:12–14
 - 12 "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!

 How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations!
 - 13 For you have said in your heart:
 - I will ascend into heaven,
 - <u>I will</u> exalt my throne above the stars of God;
 - <u>I will</u> also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north;
 - 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds,
 - <u>I will</u> be like the Most High.'

I. BEING A SERVANT B. ACTION

■ Ephesians 4:11–12 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

II. BEING ACTIVE (3:6-8)

- 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. 7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. 8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

II. BEING ACTIVE (3:6-8) A. DO THE WORK

Plant – Gk. Phuteo – to plant- doing something that may have a spiritual impact someday.

III. Parable of the Soils – Mt. 13:3-9

Water – Gk. Polizo – to give to drink or to make to drink; teaching for growth; germination of the seed.

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II. BE ACTIVE B. NOT FOR PERSONAL GLORY (3:7)

3:7 – "So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters"

- 2 Corinthians 10:17 But "he who glories, let him glory in the LORD."
- Galatians 6:14 But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

GALATIANS 5:19-21

- Gal. 5:19-21 works of the flesh
- 19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, <u>contentions</u>, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, <u>selfish ambitions</u>, <u>dissensions</u>, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.
- Contentions Gk. Eris "strife, quarrel, especially rivalry, contention, wrangling,"
- Rivalries Gk. Erithia "ambition, self-seeking, rivalry," self-will being an underlying idea in the word
- Dissension Gk. Dichostasia- sedition or division

II. BE ACTIVE C. UNITED IN PURPOSE (V.8)

"8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one"

III. BEING PATIENT (3:6-8)

- 3:6 "God gave the increase."
- 3:7 "God who gives the increase."

James 1:2–4 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

Patience – Gk. Hupomone – steadfastness; patient enduring; longsuffering; a remaining under;

IV. BEING REWARDED (3:8)

3:8b and <u>each one will receive his own</u>
 <u>reward</u> according to his own labor.

BELIEVERS' CROWNS

- Crowns –
- A. Imperishable Crown I Cor. 9:24—27
- B. Crown of Exultation Phil 4:1; I Thess 2:19-20
- C. Crown of Righteousness 2 Tim 4:7-8
- D. Crown of Life James 1:12
- E. Crown of Glory I Pet 5:1-4
- *What will we be doing with these rewards?

REVELATION 4:9-11

Revelation 4:9–11 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: II "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created."

CONCLUSION

- I. Praise God for the leaders that God has sent us. There is no perfect leader like there is no perfect church and there is no perfect person. Be supportive of our leaders. Seek to be a leader that will point people to Christ.
- 2. In leading, all glory goes to God. He gives us all that we need to serve Him. Be active in the Body of Christ. It can play a part in being spiritually healthy.
- 3. Trust the Lord to accomplish what He wants with all that we have set out to do. Sometimes we may never see the end result of serving.
- 4. Our ultimate reward is in Heaven. We don't know what impact our witnessing, discipling, sponsoring, teaching and loving will have on people in the long run.





