

Calvary Baptist Church

Sunday, August 2, 2020

Making Disciples for the Glory of God

Order of Service

Call to Worship ~ Hebrews 11:1-7

Song #294 ~ By Faith

Prayer

Scripture Reading: Leviticus 22:1-33

Song #48 ~ O God, My Joy

Prayer

Sermon ~ Romans 12:6-8

Prayer

Lord's Supper

Song #199 ~ How Deep the Father's Love For Us

Psalm 40:5

Many, O Lord my God, are the wonders which you have done, and Your thoughts toward us; There is none to compare with You. If I would declare and speak of them, they would be too numerous to count.

- IV) You can present yourself as a sacrifice by exhorting (v. 12:8).
A. A great example of exhortation is when Paul confronted Peter to his face about Peter's exclusion of the Gentiles (Gal. 2:11-13). Exhortation should not be based on personal opinions, but on clear disobedience to God's Word. When the Holy Spirit encourages you to open your mouth and exhort a brother in Christ about sin, do it. Within the same book, though, Paul reminds us to exhort with meekness (Gal 6:1).
- V) You can present yourself as a sacrifice by giving (v. 12:8).
A. Paul describes the giving as generous (or possibly "with pure motives"). The churches in Macedonia gave generously even though they were in deep poverty to Paul while he was serving in Corinth (2 Cor. 8:1-4). This sacrificial giving is not for the wealthy alone.
- VI) You can present yourself as a sacrifice by leading (v. 12:8).
A. Paul may be talking about the pastor (1 Thess. 5:12; 1 Tim. 5:17), but this word is used other times to describe the husband who leads his family well (1 Tim. 3:4, 5, & 12). Notice that Paul describes the leading with the word "diligently". When you see something that needs to be done, jump in and do it. Don't wait for others to jump in.
- VII) You can present yourself as a sacrifice by being merciful (v. 12:8).
A. There will be times when you will have the opportunity to serve others in the church who have a specific need. You may find yourself serving out of obligation, but Paul uses the word "cheerful" to describe the way in which you show mercy.

Conclusion: Don't ask what your gift is; rather, ask, how can I sacrifice myself for the local church?

Pastor Dan Benitez ~ 813-751-4305

www.CalvaryBaptistTampa.com

Text: Romans 12:6-8

Theme: Present yourself as a sacrifice to God.

Introduction: Don't spend your time being concerned with what your gifting is, but rather, be concerned with presenting yourself as a sacrifice to God in the local church. (Notice the lengthy list in Romans 12:6-21 of ways to sacrifice yourself).

I) You can present yourself as a sacrifice in the local church by prophesying (v. 12:6).

A. Does prophesy still exist today?

1. Paul does say that prophesy has been done away (1 Cor. 13:8), but the text also says that knowledge is done away; *in contrast*, tongues cease. If this knowledge still exists, then prophesy still exists (cf. 1 Cor. 8:1; 13:9-10).

2. In 1 Cor. 14:1-2, Paul makes it clear that tongues and prophesy are distinct. In fact, Paul tells them to pursue prophesy.

3. Paul distinguishes between revelation and prophesy (1 Cor. 14:6).

B. What is prophesy?

1. To prophesy is to speak for the Lord (Deut. 18:18-22; cf. Ex. 7:1-2).

2. A false prophet is someone who claims to speak for the Lord when, in fact, he is not (cf. Jer. 23:16-17, 21-22, 28, 30-32, 36-37).

3. Although prophesy is distinct from revelation, prophesy has included revelation (Acts 11:27-30).

C. If you exercise the gift of prophesy, your faith ought to match your words (cf. Heb. 3:17-19).

1. For example, if you struggle with obvious anger then you should not be the one who points out God's Word concerning patience. First, take the beam out of your own eye (Matt. 7:3-5).

II) You can present yourself as a sacrifice in the local church by serving (v. 12:7).

A. This verse does not refer to the office of deacon.

1. Notice the wording of the introduction for the first two (i.e. if prophesy...) in contrast to the wording of the next five (i.e. "he who exhorts"). Paul assumes that you might be tempted to interpret the first two gifts (prophesy and deacon) as offices, so Paul combats that by changing the introduction for the first two.

B. This type of service is necessary to enable the pastor to devote his attention to prayer and the ministry of the Word (Acts 6:4).

III) You can present yourself as a sacrifice in the local church by teaching (v. 12:7).

A. This gift includes preaching, but also includes conversations with others in the church. When someone asks a question, you sacrifice your own time to help them work through what the Bible says about that particular topic.

B. This gift requires diligent study (2 Timothy 2:14-16).