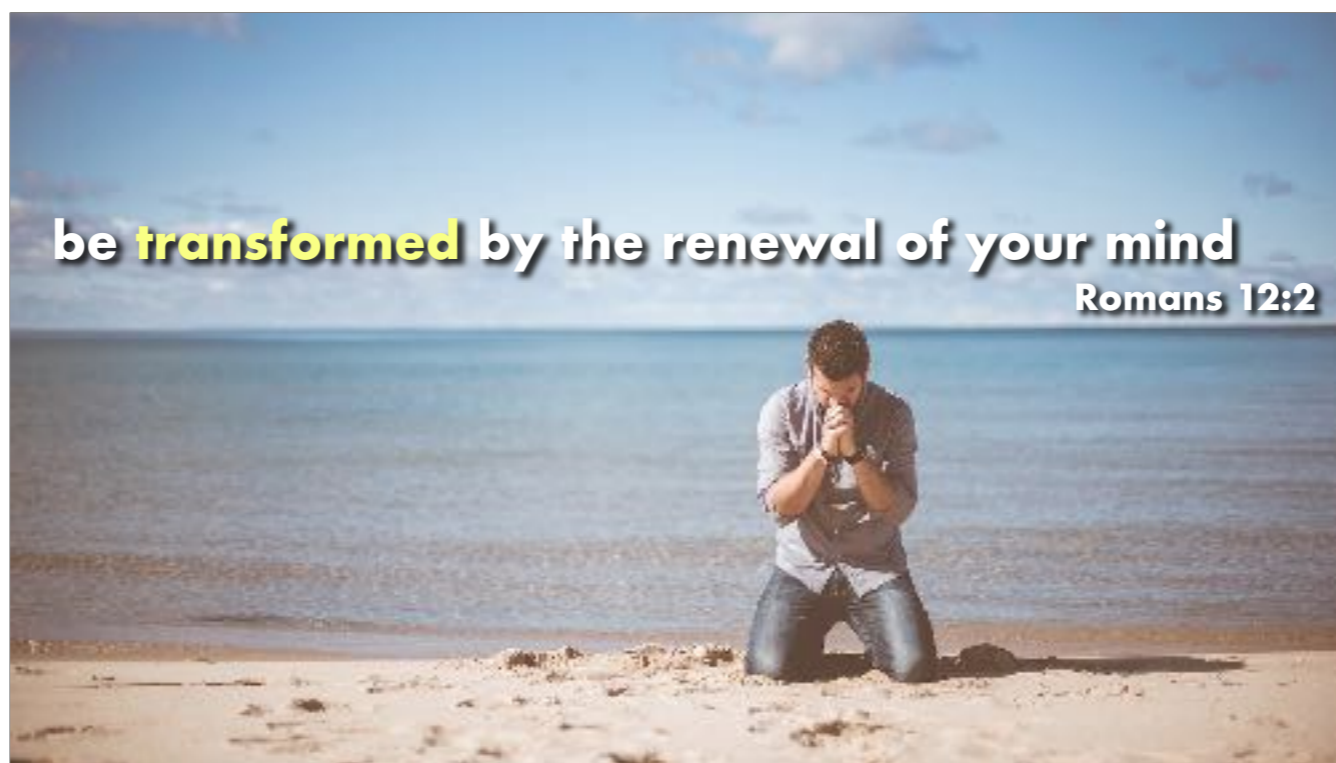




- Scripture reading: Matthew 25:14-30
- Romans 12:1-2 (ESV) 1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.



- Transformed

- Romans 12:2: Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.
- 2 Corinthians 3:18: And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, **are being transformed into the same image** from one degree of **glory** to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.



- Living Sacrifice

- Romans 12:1-2 (ESV) 1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

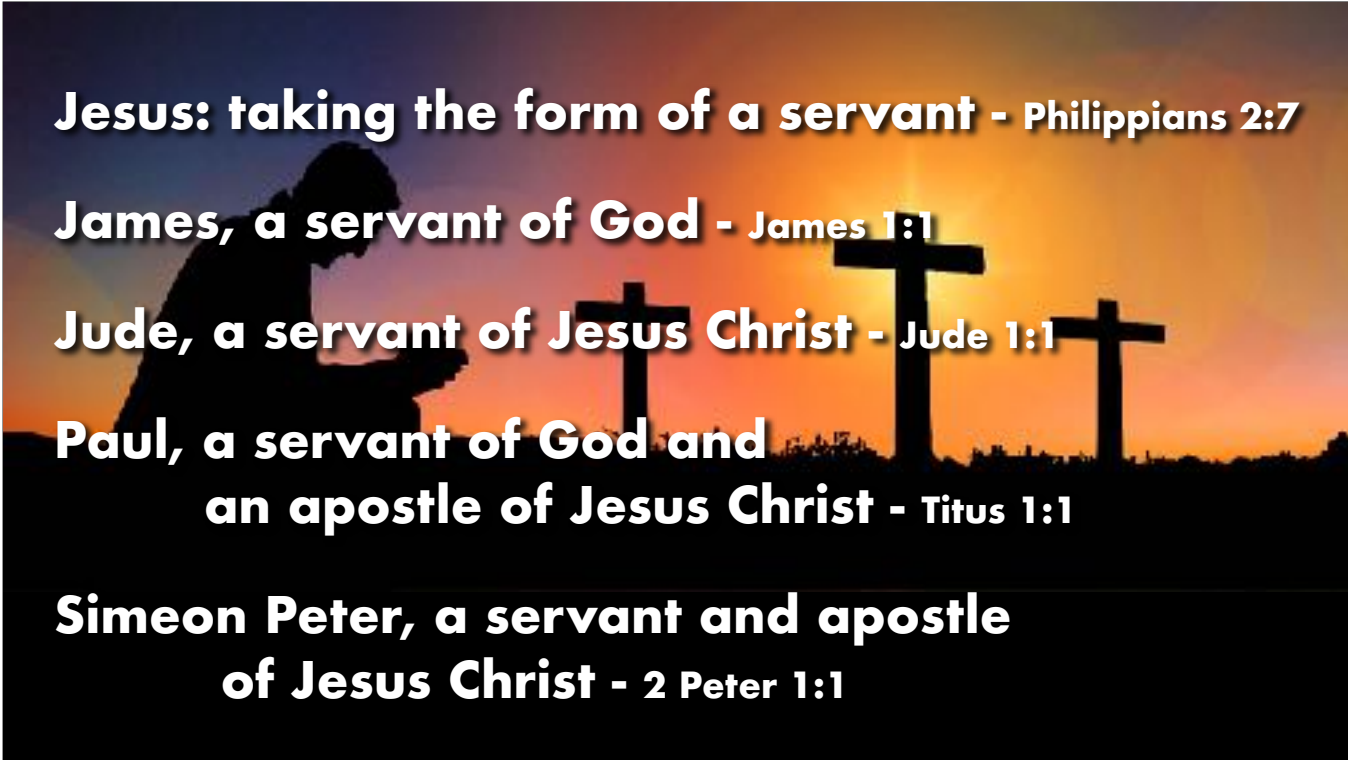


- The modern translations use the word “servant” when older translations use the word “slave”/ “servant”
- We don’t like the word slave.
- We don’t like the association with such a lowly position.
- We don’t like the idea of my thinking not having merit.
- A slave is the property of, wholly subject to another, a person entirely under the domination of some influence or person...and absolutely subject to the will of another.

But now that you have been set free  
from sin and have become **slaves of God**  
Romans 6:22



- Transformed to glory of Jesus
  - Living sacrifice
  - Slaves of God
- Boot Camp... (from Dad)
  - teaches unquestioning obedience
  - I don't have my own will
- We're in good company as slaves
  -



**Jesus: taking the form of a servant - Philippians 2:7**

**James, a servant of God - James 1:1**

**Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ - Jude 1:1**

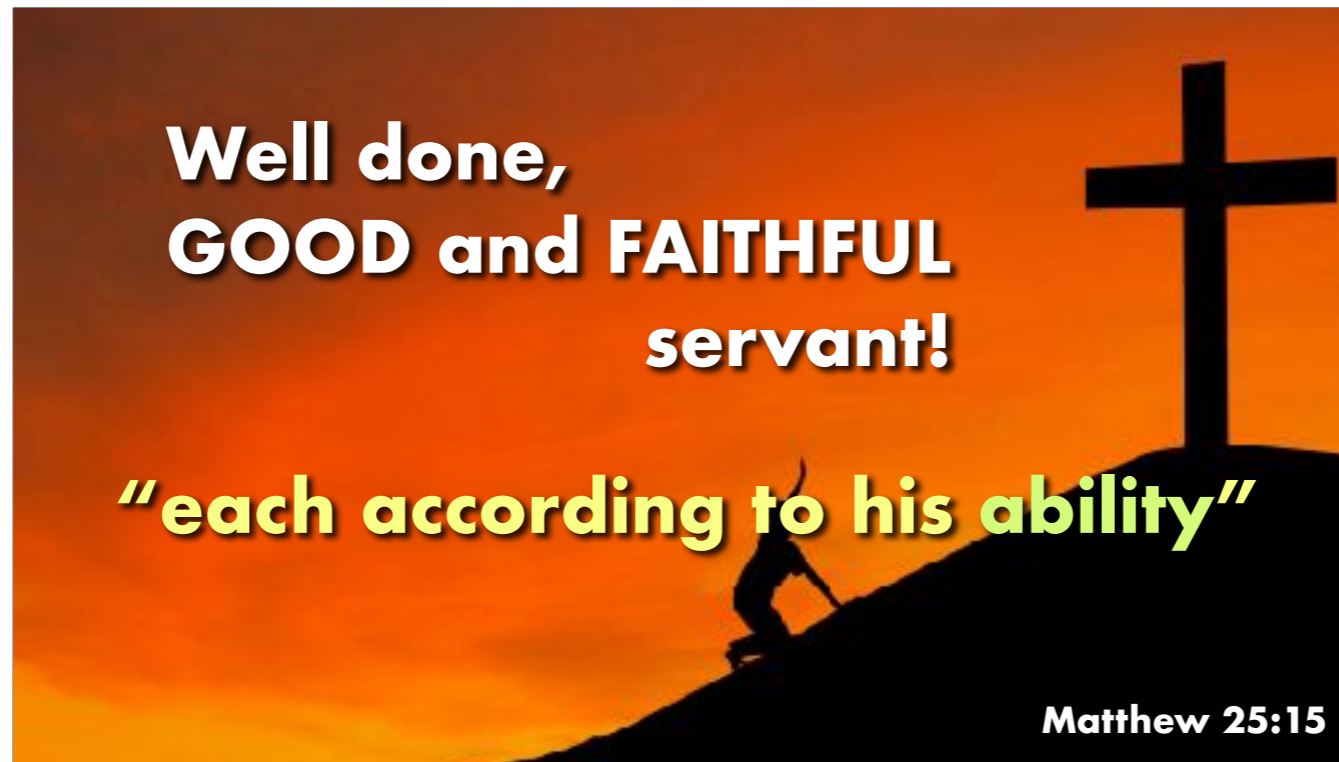
**Paul, a servant of God and  
an apostle of Jesus Christ - Titus 1:1**

**Simeon Peter, a servant and apostle  
of Jesus Christ - 2 Peter 1:1**

- What does a servant look like?
- Jesus
- James, Jude, Paul, Peter



- Matthew 25:14-30



- “each according to his ability” (15)
  - What is included in ability?
    - Knowledge, Experience, Action, Skill, Capability
    - Does it include ATTITUDE? Absolutely.
      - a poor attitude can negate all the knowledge, skill, and experience.
      - “It can’t be done”; “It won’t work”; “I’m not the right one”; “Too much is being expected of me.” “Is this really important?; “Is this the best way”?





- Matthew 25:16 He who had received the five talents **went at once** and traded with them, and he made five talents more.
- What are the implications that two servants “went at once”?
  - What is their attitude? Why?
    - Serve master
    - Do best
    - Immediately
  - Is there something else behind these? Honor? Love?
    - This is the same attitude of the servant with pierced ear.
      - Exodus 21:5 (ESV) But if the slave plainly says, ‘I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free,’



- What was different about the third servant?
- Matthew 25:24-25 (ESV) 24 He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.'
- What are the attitudes of the third servant?
  - Disparaging the Master
    - hard man
    - did not sow, but reap (not fair)
  - Fear
    - Good enough: "you have what is yours"
- Does he love his master? Clearly not.
  - No: Honor, Respect, Love



- What did He accomplish for his master? Nothing
- Jesus' evaluation
  - "You wicked and slothful servant" (26)
    - Fear leads to sin, and laziness
      - Justifies itself, feels righteous
  - "The worthless servant" (30)



- Consequences

- Matthew 25:23 (ESV) His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'
- Matthew 25:30 (ESV) And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

**GOOD and FAITHFUL servant**



- Good and Faithful Servant

**GOOD and FAITHFUL servant**

**I am striving to be like my Master.**

**It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master.**

**Matthew 10:25**

- Matthew 10:24-25 (ESV) 24 “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. 25 It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.

**GOOD and FAITHFUL servant**

**I am striving to be like my Master.**

**If anyone would be first, he must  
be last of all and servant of all.**

**Mark 9:35**

- Mark 9:35 And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.”

**GOOD and FAITHFUL servant**

**I am striving to be like my Master.**

**But whoever would be great  
among you must be your servant**  
Mark 10:43

- Mark 10:43 (ESV) But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant,



**GOOD and FAITHFUL servant**

**I am striving to be like my Master.**

**The greatest among you  
shall be your servant.**

**Matthew 23:11**

- Matthew 23:11 (ESV) The greatest among you shall be your servant.

**GOOD and FAITHFUL servant**

**I am not my own!**

**You are not your own, for you  
were bought with a price.**

**1 Corinthians 6:19-20**

- I am not my own!
  - 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (ESV) 19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.
- In New Testament times, along with food, spices, clothing, and other goods for the home, men and women were being sold right along side of the other commodities.
- This is a radical concept for modern americans!
  - Freedom, independence, individualism
  - Pro-abortion: my body, my choice
  - In Christ, in all ways, He owns me!

**GOOD and FAITHFUL servant**

**I try to please God, not man.**



**For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.**

**Galatians 1:10**

- I try to please God
  - Galatians 1:10 (ESV): For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.
- Too often we almost unconsciously seek to please those around us, we want to be accepted by them and have their approval.

**GOOD and FAITHFUL servant**

**I try to please God, not man.**



**For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.**

**Galatians 1:10**

- Sometimes all we care about is pleasing ourselves.
- So we conform to them; we conform to the world
- Instead, we must constantly be trying to please God and have His approval.
  - This is something that we can do!
  - But to accomplish we must know his will.
  - Choose his will over my own.

**GOOD and FAITHFUL servant**

**I'm free — to live as a servant of God.**

**Live as people who are free, not using  
your freedom as a cover-up for evil,  
but living as servants of God.**

**1 Peter 2:16**

- 1 Peter 2:16: Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.

**GOOD and FAITHFUL servant**

**I am a servant to all,  
to win more to Christ.**

**For though I am free from all, I have  
made myself a servant to all, that I  
might win more of them.**

**1 Corinthians 9:19**

- 1 Corinthians 9:19 For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them.

**GOOD and FAITHFUL servant**

**I gladly give all.**

**I will most gladly spend and  
be spent for your souls.**

**2 Corinthians 12:15**

- 2 Corinthians 12:15 (ESV) 15 I will most gladly spend and be spent for your souls. If I love you more, am I to be loved less?

**GOOD and FAITHFUL servant**

**I Will Spend and Be Spent.**

**I will most gladly spend and  
be spent for your souls.**

**2 Corinthians 12:15**

- These are some of the attitudes of a good and faithful servant.
- But Jesus wants us to think more deeply
- Luke 6



**GOOD and FAITHFUL servant**

**Why do you call me  
"Lord, Lord," and not  
do what I tell you?**

**Luke 6:46**



- Luke 6:46-49 (ESV) 46 “Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do what I tell you? 47 Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: 48 he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. 49 But the one who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great.”

**GOOD and FAITHFUL servant**

**Why do you call me  
"Lord, Lord," and not  
do what I tell you?**

**Luke 6:46**



- How we determine to follow Jesus is significant.
- Our attitude matters too!
  - About Master
  - work
- Our commitment is something we have in mind as being proper based on our belief.
  - Wise: Hear and Do (good and faithful)
- However, Jesus states that if you do not take on "all" of his words to the point of action...your house is in jeopardy.

**GOOD and FAITHFUL servant**

**Why do you call me  
"Lord, Lord," and not  
do what I tell you?**

**Luke 6:46**



- I want us to consider again who we are.
  - I want us to understand that whether you are comfortable or not has no weight in what the Lord asks of you.
  - I want you to understand that if you do not consider the Lord (who is your master) as you make choices in life...you have built your house on sand.

**GOOD and FAITHFUL servant**

**Why do you call me  
"Lord, Lord," and not  
do what I tell you?**

**Luke 6:46**



- The true relationship that sustains "all your heart" is the one where you give yourself completely.
  - We have been so enamored with the idea that we have given ourselves completely because we "say" we have.
  - The truth is that we give ourselves completely when I won't move without considering what God would have.
  - We declare our praise while we ignore our responsibility.
- We love the idea that if I do a few things, daily or weekly: pray, study, assemble.
  - It's not completely Him until I do all that I hear from Him.

**GOOD and FAITHFUL servant**

**Why do you call me  
"Lord, Lord," and not  
do what I tell you?**

**Luke 6:46**



- Will you be a good and faithful servant?
- Or will you be worthless, wicked, and slothful?
  - What do you need to do to truly enslave yourself to God?
  - What do you need to do as a sign (for yourself) that you belong to Him?
  - The slaves of old had their earlobe punctured as a sign that they belonged to their master.
  - Will you ask to be designated as a slave of God?
  - James and Peter did.
    - Peter was an apostle but he declared himself a slave first. Will you?
- Jesus gave up all for us to be a servant.

**We implore you on  
behalf of Christ,  
be reconciled to God.**

**2 Corinthians 5:20**

Son with the mind of a servant

Freed to serve one another Gal. 5

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THE WORD IN PICTURES

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## Good and Faithful Servant

Matthew 25:21

Synopsis: To be transformed to the image of Jesus, who came as a servant, we must understand what it means to be a good and faithful servant. The parable Jesus demonstrates that both attitude and action must be transformed from a worldly way of thinking about our relationship with our Master. We are also warned of the danger of claiming Jesus as Lord, but not doing what he says. Again, borrowed thoughts from Darrel Yontz.

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**“Let all that you do be done with love.”**