

# SOM WEEK 1 OVERVIEW

## Homework

- Bible Readings: Mark 1-5
- Book Readings: On Being a Servant of the Lord by Warren Wiersbe Pg. 1-72

## Sermon Highlights: Servanthood

- The three passages we looked at were Acts 6:1-7, Romans 1:1, and 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; specifically looking at the three Greek words Diakono, Duolos, and Hypereretes.

## Diakono

- *Acts 6:1-3 "Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists,[a] because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word."*
- In Acts 6:2, that word there for waiting on tables is "Diakono", is where we get the word ministry.
- The literal definition of ministry is serving or waiting on tables. That is ministry, not just being up on a platform, not just leading worship, or teaching a bible study, but serving. Doing the things in the background that nobody sees or notices.
- Whether it's a cup of water, cleaning tables in the solid ground, vacuuming after service, cooking a meal, visiting someone in the hospital, fill in the blank. That is ministry. That is service unto the king.
- I think it was chuck smith(the founder of calvary chapel, we are going to read on of his books) but whenever anyone came up to him and said "hey pastor chuck I feel the Lord has a calling on my life, I want to be in the ministry", he would say "hey thats great" and lead him to the mop closet, hand him a mop and say "welcome to the ministry".
- *Mark 10:45 "For the son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister and to give his life as a ransom for many".* That's the same word, Diakono. Jesus served, and He calls us to live as He did. He came to serve others, not to be served.
- There are three qualifications placed on these men to wait on tables: Good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom.

## Duolos

- *Romans 1:1 "Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God"*
- This word is found in Pauls introduction to Romans, Peter's introduction in his second epistle, as well as James in his letter. All three of these notable leaders who could have boasted in their close proximity to Jesus, rather referred to themselves as a bondservant(Duolos).

- In Roman times, the term *bondservant* or *slave* COULD refer to someone who voluntarily served others. But it USUALLY referred to one who was held in a permanent position of servitude. Under Roman law, a bondservant was considered the owner's personal property. Slaves essentially had no rights and could even be killed with impunity by their owners.
- The bible speaks of bondservants the old testament in *Exodus 21:5-6*. Biblically in Israel, a servant would serve their master for six years and be set free in the seventh. But in Exodus a provision is made *"But if the servant plainly says I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free, then his master shall bring him to the judges. He shall also bring him to the door, or to the doorpost, and his master shall pierce his ear with an awl; and he shall serve him forever."* A servant who realized, I have it so good here in my master's house. I have loved serving Him, I do not want to leave, I want to serve Him forever.
- There is no master like Jesus. Alcohol, terrible master. Pleasure, terrible master. Money? Great tool, poor master. Try finding a master who would get beaten for his servant, who would be mocked for his servant, who would be whipped for his servant, who would die for his servant. Try finding a master who loves us like Jesus does, and He only wants the best for us.

### Hypereretes

- This word is found in Paul's letter to the Corinthian church in the beginning of chapter 4. *1 Corinthians 4:1-2 "Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful"*
- Where it says servant, that is the word Hypereretes. What it means is under rower. Paul, who was born in Tarsus, a Roman citizen by birth was well accustomed to the Roman Navy. The Romans would use the people that they conquered and enslave them, and use some of them to row their warships. This word (hyperetes) referred to the galley slave, that slave who was chained down in the underbelly of the ship whose sole purpose was to row.
- There's a scene in the movie Ben Hur, where they are at the bottom of the warship. And as the captain gave the command, the slave started to row to the cadence of the drum. As the captain ordered them to go faster, the drum beat faster, when the captain ordered them to slow down, the drum beat slower. When the captain said rest, they rested.
- This galley slave, the one chained to the bottom of the boat. Nobody knew his name, nobody paid attention to him, but he had to do his job so that the boat could move forward so that it could be successful.
- Paul, the great apostle Paul equates himself to one of those galley slaves. Telling the Corinthians, you think we are something? You think me or apollo or peter are anything? We are simply galley slaves. We are simply underrowers. We are the guys chained to the bottom of the boat. And we serve a master. We slave for the benefit of all, but we only have one master.

**Reflection Questions**

- What comes to mind when you think about the word “ministry”? Is it Diakono, waiting on tables, or is it the person that everyone sees?
- Do I see menial tasks(diakono) as beneath me or as an opportunity to reflect Christ?
- In what areas of my life am I resisting Christ’s Lordship as His bondservant?
- Am I willing to obey even if it costs me?
- Am I in sync with Jesus and His direction in my life? Or am I moving to the beat of my own drum?