

“Servant of All”



“For I think that God has set forth us the apostles last, as appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ; we are despised. Even unto this present hour we both do hunger and thirst, and are naked, and are buffeted, and have no certain dwelling place; And labor, working with our own hands: being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure it.” 1 Corinthians 4:9-12

This does not look like the picture of an apostle that we are seeing today in America. Most people think that to be an apostle, the highest ministry office in the church, means that you get the most glory and recognition. Yet somewhere along your training, you will have to learn to mop floors, clean toilets and do all the things no one else wants to do. This is going to be one of the most difficult yet powerful lessons you will have to learn in order to fulfill your apostolic calling.

In the Kingdom of God everything works just the opposite to the way things work on the world. In the world, if you want to get ahead in life, you toot your own horn and steam-roll over anyone who stands in your way. In the Kingdom of God, it is not so. If you want to be leader of all, you must first become servant of all. If you want to receive, first you must give. If you want to have first place, you must humble yourself and become least of all. If you want to reap, first you must sow. God does not promote men the same way the world does.

If you want people to submit to your leadership and follow you, then you have some lessons of your own to learn. If you start with a mop in your hand and dirt under your nails, I would say that you would be in a good place to fulfill your apostolic calling. The Apostle's training comes in obscurity, and not only will you find yourself hidden from view for a few years, but you will find yourself in the lowliest positions, doing the toughest jobs.

Consider the type of things Jesus' disciples had to do. Fetch the water; feed the people; find places to stay; organize a supper in the upper room. It was not a very glamorous job. Yet those same apostles stood up in the day of Pentecost and led three thousand people to the Lord. Three years of servanthood and training under the Master's hand released a group of powerful men that shook the world and established the Kingdom of God on the earth.

If you desire to be a great leader, the Lord will lead you into obscurity where you must first learn to be the servant of all. This is the single most important part of your training as it will establish the foundation that your ministry will be based upon. It will build your character and teach you to walk in humility and righteousness. Roll up your sleeves, and allow the Lord to begin to mold and train you in the most important foundational teaching of the Kingdom of God: “Be a servant of all.”