



Moving From Being Served To Serving

#6 – Results & Rewards Of Service

October 3, 2004

Acts 6:1-7

In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews complained.... because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said: "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

*They chose Stephen,... Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas...
So the word of God spread.*

The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly...

1. Others can _____ where they _____.

Acts 6:4

2. The _____ grows.

Acts 6:7

3. _____ grow.

Acts 6:8 8:26 21:8

“Of all the classical Spiritual Disciplines, service is the most conducive to the growth of humility. When we set out on a consciously chosen course of action that accents the good of others and is for the most part a hidden work, a deep change occurs in our spirit. Nothing disciplines the inordinate desires of the flesh like service, and nothing transforms the desires of the flesh like serving in hiddenness. The flesh whines against service but screams against hidden service. It strains and pulls for honor and recognition. It will devise subtle, religiously acceptable means to call attention to the service rendered. If we stoutly refuse to give in to this lust of the flesh we crucify it. Every time we crucify the flesh we crucify our pride and arrogance.”

Richard Foster, Celebration of Discipline

Ephesians 4

*v7. But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.
v12,13. to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith...*

v16. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

4. The _____ grows _____.

Ephesians 4:12

5. _____ and _____ increase.

Ephesians 4:13,16

6. _____ grow _____.

Ephesians 4:16

Matthew 25:21

His master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness."

7. _____ are _____.