

Message Notes

B.L.E.S.S. #6

Serve

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The B.L.E.S.S. Vision:

That we would B.L.E.S.S. people with the love of Jesus Christ so that they come back to God.

The B.L.E.S.S. Strategy: (flowing from the Abrahamic Covenant in Genesis 12:1-3)

B—Begin With Prayer

L—Listen

E—Eat

S—Serve

S—Share

S- Serve—What it is:

Serving in the name of Jesus Christ is doing _____ for others with _____.

It is about us, as followers of Jesus, _____ to anyone and everyone, especially to those around us that do not yet have a relationship with Jesus.

It is about followers of Jesus exuding the good works of the gospel.

Why is serving others important?

- Jesus asks it of us.

Matthew 25:31-46 (NASB)

“But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. ³²All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; ³³and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left.”

³⁴“Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; ³⁶naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You something to drink? ³⁸And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? ³⁹When did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ ⁴⁰The King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.’ ”

⁴¹“Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry, and you gave Me nothing to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me nothing to drink; ⁴³I was a stranger, and you did not invite Me in; naked, and you did not clothe Me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit Me.’ ⁴⁴Then they themselves also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of You?’ ⁴⁵Then He will answer them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’ ⁴⁶These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

- It unlocks other people’s _____ and _____ to consider the claims of Christ.

Irish evangelist Gypsy Smith once said: “There are five gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and the _____, and some people will never read the first four.”

It brings us great joy when we make a difference in other people’s lives through our small actions of love.

How did Jesus serve? How should we serve?

Mark 7:31-37 (NASB)

Again He went out from the region of Tyre, and came through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, within the region of Decapolis. ³²They *brought to Him one who was deaf and spoke with difficulty, and they implored Him to lay His hand on him. ³³Jesus took him aside from the crowd, by himself, and put His fingers into his ears, and after spitting, He touched his tongue with the saliva; ³⁴and looking up to heaven with a deep sigh, He said to him, "Ephphatha!" that is, "Be opened!" ³⁵And his ears were opened, and the impediment of his tongue was removed, and he began speaking plainly. ³⁶And He gave them orders not to tell anyone; but the more He ordered them, the more widely they continued to proclaim it. ³⁷They were utterly astonished, saying, "He has done all things well; He makes even the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

- The first notable quality of Jesus' serving is _____. The people that Jesus served were always the people right in front of Him, near Him, those in close proximity. That is where we start—with the people near us, in front of us, in close proximity.
- He served perceptively. We need to seek first to _____ the people God has put in close proximity to us through listening well –don't assume you know their story or their pain. Serve perceptively.
- He served personally by "entering" into the man's pain. He was _____ by the suffering of the people He was serving. Whoever we are called to serve, we need to _____ their pain.
- He served _____. In serving, Jesus used and accessed God's power, and we should too. Don't be afraid to ask God for a miracle.

John 14:12: *Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father.*

I can do that!



Weekend Services July 26 & 27, 2014

B.L.E.S.S.ed Summer Ever Series

Message by Dr. Sammy Wanyonyi

ELEMENTS Saturday and Sunday PM

Worship Leader: Ben Rosenbush

Saturday Host: Rebecca Petersen

Sunday Host: Josh Miller

Sunday AM

Worship Leader: Ben Rosenbush

Host: Brian Suter

Service Order:

Doxology

This I Believe

Reading: Isaiah 44:22

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Build Your Kingdom Here

FaithStory: Nicki Dutoit

Community Life

Great Are You Lord

Message

Children of Light (Sunday only)

Café Twelve: Two News: Please note that the café will be closed in August while additional equipment is installed and we prepare for the Grand Re-opening on Sunday, September 7. The café seating area will remain open for use, and "express carts," offering regular and decaf coffee, hot chocolate and bottled water, will be available just outside the café, outside the Worship Center and in the lower level of Building A.

Employment Opportunities: Childcare Room Leader (PT), Student Ministry Associate (PT), Preschool Teaching Assistant and Substitute Teachers/Assistants (PT). Find details and application at www.westwoodcc.org.