

## God's Great Reversal: The Payoff of Sacrificial Living

"Jesus replied, "Yes, you have followed me. In the re-creation of the world, when the Son of Man will rule gloriously, you who have followed me will also rule, starting with the twelve tribes of Israel. And not only you, but anyone who sacrifices home, family, fields—whatever—because of Me will get it all back a hundred times over, not to mention the considerable bonus of eternal life. **THIS IS THE GREAT REVERSAL: many of the first will end up last, and the last first.**" Matthew 19:28-30 (Mess.)

### I. Introduction

"You don't really know about tomorrow. **What is your life? You are merely a mist** that appears for only a short while before it vanishes away." James 4:14

The thing that brings true Biblical value to life is \_\_\_\_\_!

### II. Exploring the Seven Biblical "Not-So-Secrets" of Serving

1. Serving is a \_\_\_\_\_ issue

**"As each has received a gift,** use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace..." I Peter 4:10 (ESV)

"As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. **They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, in this way storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future,** so that they may take hold of that which is truly life." I Timothy 6:17

Thought: We are \_\_\_\_\_ people to \_\_\_\_\_ people!

2. God made you to serve \_\_\_\_\_

"...whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; **whoever serves, serve confidently as one who serves by the strength that God supplies**—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ..." I Peter 4:11

"Then the Lord said to Moses, "See, **I have chosen Bezalel...and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills** to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of crafts...**I have appointed Oholiab**...to help him. Also **I have given ability to all the skilled workers** to make everything I have commanded you: the ten...the ark of the covenant...and all the other furnishings...the table and its articles, the gold lampstand...the altar of incense, the altar of burnt offering...the basin and stand...the woven garments, both for Aaron the priest and the garments for his sons when they serve as priests..." Exodus 31:1-10



6. Serving is a \_\_\_\_\_ *“Jesus knew that the Father had put him in complete charge of everything, that He came from God and was on His way back to God. So He got up from the supper table, set aside His robe, and put on an apron. Then He poured water into a basin and began to wash the feet of the disciples, drying them with His apron. When He got to Simon, Peter said, “Master, you wash my feet?” John 13:3-6 (Mess.)*

*“...And all of you must put on the **apron of humility**, to **serve one another**...” I Peter 5:5 (GNT)*

7. Serving is a seed that you \_\_\_\_\_

*“Don’t be deceived or misled about this—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Holy Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Him. **So let’s not get tired or weary of doing what is good. We can rejoice that at just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up. Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone**—especially to those in the family of faith.” Galatians 6:7-10*

*“**Sow your seed in the morning and do not be idle in the evening**, for you do not know whether morning or evening sowing will succeed, or whether both of them alike will be good.” Ecclesiastes 11:6*

*“Keep on sowing your seed, for you never know which will grow—**perhaps it all will!**” Ecclesiastes 11:6*

*“And whatever you do, do it heartily, as **to the Lord** and **not to men**, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.” Colossians 3:23-24 (NKJV)*

*“Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how **the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth**, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. You also be patient...” James 5:7-8 (NKJV)*

## **Answer Key:**

### **I. Introduction**

Serving others

### **II. Exploring the Seven Biblical “Not-So-Secrets” of Serving**

1. stewardship

Saved---serve

2. in *YOUR* style

3. serving---sustains

4. rest in Christ

**RUN \_\_\_ REST \_\_\_ REPEAT**

**5. greater purpose**

**6. mark of maturity**

**7. plant for the future**