

Useful to the Master
John 9:1-7

NOTES

2 Timothy 2:21 (NASB) "If anyone cleanses himself from these things he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful to the Master, prepared for every good work."

Principle One: There is a Divine OBLIGATION to be useful in service.

John 9:4 (NASB) "We must work the works of Him who sent Me, as long as it is day; night is coming, when no man can work.

James 2:17 (NASB) "Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself."

Ephesians 2:10 (NASB) "We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."

1. RESPONSIBILITY to God:

- **As a Son** Jesus could say, "I must be about My Father's business" (Luke 2:49)

John 1:12-13 (NASB) "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right (authority) to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."

- **As a Savior**, He could say, "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:14-15)

John 14:23-24 (NASB) "If anyone loves me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and we will come to him, and make our abode with him. He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me.

John 15:10 (NASB) "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments, and abide in His love."

- **As a servant**, Jesus could say, "I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day."

Romans 1:14-15 (NASB) "I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. Thus, for my part, I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome."

1 Corinthians 9:16 (NASB) "I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for I am under compulsion; for woe is me if I do not preach the gospel."

2. ACCOUNTABILITY to God:

John 14:10b (NASB) "The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works."

John 5:19,30 (NASB) "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner... As I hear, I judge; and my judgment is just, because I do not seek my own will, but the will of Him who sent me."

Principle Two: There is a Divine OBJECTIVE in being useful in service.

John 9:4 We must work the works of Him who sent Me, as long as it is day; night is coming, when no man can work.

1. Personally RECEIVING Christ as Lord.

John 6:29 (NASB) "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."

John 1:12 (NASB) "As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name."

John 3:3 (Amp) "Jesus answered him, "I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, that unless a person is born again (born anew from above), he cannot ever see – know, be acquainted with (and experience or participate in) – the kingdom of God."

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2. Personally REVEALING Christ as Lord.

John 14:12 (NASB) "Most assuredly, 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 My Father."

John 9:35-38 (NASB) "When Jesus heard that they had cast him out ... he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of God?' he answered and said, 'Who is he, Lord, that I may believe in Him?' And Jesus said to him, 'You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you.' Then he said, 'Lord, I believe!' and He worshiped him."

Colossians 1:28-29 (NASB) "We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom that we may present every man complete in Christ. And for this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me."

Principle Three: There is the Divine OPPORTUNITY to be useful in service.

John 9:4 (NASB) "We must work the works of Him who sent Me, as long as it is day; night is coming, when no man can work."

1. All time must be UTILIZED redemptively.

Psalms 90:12 (NASB) "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."

Ephesians 5:16-17 (NASB) "So then be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil."

Revelation 3:7b & 11a (NASB) "He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens. ... Behold I am coming quickly."

2. All toil must be ORGANIZED redemptively.

John 17:4 (NASB) "I glorified Thee on the earth, having accomplished the work which Thou hast given Me to do."

Application:

Jesus refers to the work of God as a divine activity. Is that the way you view it?

What can you do as a church member to allow the Holy spirit to do His work more freely in your midst?

For what were you created? (See Ephesians 2:10) Assess where you are in the process of fulfilling this purpose.

What is essential in order to be linked with the divine activity of God?

Are you a cleansed vessel that can be freely used by the Master of every good work?

If not what must you do to become usable in the Master's hand?

Do you use your time redemptively?

Is your life organized around the purposes of God or around your own will and desires?

What must you do this week to accommodate the Word of God in your life?

Memory verse: **2 Timothy 2:21 (NASB) "If anyone cleanses himself from these things he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work."**