

The Great Commitment *Matthew 20:26-28*

It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Dream and vision are such powerful words. In 1969 America did something that had only been dreamed of and fantasized about in books and novels-she put a man on the moon. In 1963 a man dreamed about what he could do with swampland.

What is the secret of greatness?

The key question is this: are you more interested in being served in a church, or are you more interested in being a servant in the church?

I. I Am Expected to Serve - 2 Tim. 1:9, Rom 7:4

What's the difference between ministry and service?

Why doesn't God take you to heaven the moment you get saved?

II. I Am Empowered to Serve - Rom. 12:6, 1 Peter 4:10

God has given you the everything you need to serve him; they are called spiritual gifts. Everyone enjoys getting wrapped Christmas or Birthday or Valentine gifts. But no matter how much you pay for a gift, if it remains unopened it is absolutely worthless.

Two reasons why committed church members experience frustration, irritation, or lose interest in the church. First, they have never discovered their spiritual gift and don't know what it is, or second, they have discovered it and either aren't using it, or they're using it in the wrong place. Whatever you do in the church you should have the ability and the giftedness for it, and you've got the passion for it.

III. I Am Equipped to Serve – Acts 6:2-4, Eph. 4:11-12, 1 Cor. 15:58

My three main jobs according to scripture are to serve you by praying for you and the church, preparing and serving up the word, and empowering and equipping you to serve others.

According to Leonard Bernstein, the late New York symphony conductor, what is the most difficult position in the orchestra to play?