

Marks of True Spiritual Service

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Romans 1:8-16.
- B. Paul said that he serves God in his spirit. He served from the heart.
- C. God cannot be served with externals. (John 4:23)
- D. Real service involves the whole man. (Romans 12:1-2)
- E. Paul did not serve the Lord for financial reasons. (1 Corinthians 10:24)
- F. Paul did not serve for fun. (Romans 15:3)
- G. Paul did not serve for a reward. (1 Corinthians 9)
- H. Paul did not serve for fame. (2 Corinthians 4:5)
- I. Paul did not serve for pressure. (1 Corinthians 9:19)
- J. Paul gives us the ten marks of true spiritual service.

II. A thankful spirit.

III. A concerned spirit.

IV. A willing spirit.

V. A submissive spirit. (James 4:14)

- A. This recognizes God has the best plan.
- B. God's sovereignty puts out a foreordained plan to play.

VI. A loving spirit. (1 Thessalonians 2:7, 2 Corinthians 12)

- A. The main characteristic of this is selfless giving.
- B. Paul sought to impart some spiritual gift to the church--either Christ, the blessings of God or a spiritual gift.

VII. A humble spirit. (1 Peter 5:3)

Application Questions:

1. What service look like when it is not spiritual?

2. Why is submission to others submission to God? Explain.

3. Which kind of spirit do you need to develop the most? How can you grow in this area?
