

## Week 6: Discipleship Phase 4: **Serve Through Me**

**Phase Four** of Jesus' discipleship ministry could be described as: **Love your neighbor as yourself**

In **Phase Four** Jesus challenged his disciples **to love God** and as a display of that love **to serve others**, especially the least deserving.

This **Serve Through Me** stage is highlighted in the middle to late parts of all 4 gospels, leading up to Jesus crucifixion.

**Read: Luke 10:27, Luke 10:27-35, Matt 10:7-9, Mark 10:42-46, John 12:25-26, Luke 12:33-34, Matt 19:21, Luke 13:14-16, John 15:13, Matt 23:8-12, 25:35-40 & Acts 2:44-45, 1 John 4:19-20, Phil 2:4, Galatians 6:2, 10, Romans 12:13, 15:1, 1 Peter 1:22**

The major emphasis by Jesus in this stage was the necessity to obey his teaching primarily by \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ others and \_\_\_\_\_ those in need.

**Phase Four comes with its own set of discipleship distinctives. What Jesus requires of his disciples in this stage is \_\_\_\_\_ *on and* \_\_\_\_\_ from the previous stages.**

### **Phase Four Distinctives:**

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ *in reality vs. theory:*

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ *centered vs self-centered:*

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ *possessions to \_\_\_\_\_ people:*

(4) *Heightened dedication to what is \_\_\_\_\_ & spiritual vs. \_\_\_\_\_ & physical:*

(5) *True love for God that over flows into joyful lovingkindness towards others:*

(6) *Meeting \_\_\_\_\_ needs vs. \_\_\_\_\_ needs:*

**Phase Four** of our discipleship efforts must \_\_\_\_\_ the **discipleship distinctives**, as well as the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus' second stage with his disciples.

### **Phase Four Life Indicators:**

-Disciples are \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ at length on how to do ministry on their own. (Matthew 10:1-42)

-Disciples are given authority to heal (help) other's physical needs and are \_\_\_\_\_ on their own without the disciplemaker. (Matt 10:1, 5)

-Disciples are now expected to live out and begin \_\_\_\_\_ all the elements of ministry & service for others that the disciplemaker had been \_\_\_\_\_. (Matt 10:24-25, Mark 10:43-45)

-A disciple realizes it is no longer sufficient to (1) come-see-believe (2) casually follow or (3) individually obey...the clear demand now is to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ serve. (Matt 10:1, 5)

-A disciple becomes **increasingly aware** that the end is near and life is \_\_\_\_\_ and only what is done in obedience to Christ and service to others will last. (Luke 12:13-21, 21:10-38, John 9:4, John 16, Matt 18:1-5)

-Similarly, a disciple becomes **increasingly aware** that the kingdom of God is at hand and that the world and everyone in it will face the judgement of God. A disciple lives daily in the light of the end. (Luke 17:20-27, 21:10-38)

-A disciple becomes **increasingly aware** of the \_\_\_\_\_ of discipleship. They are continually reminded that obedience to Christ and service to others, in the name of the gospel, will carry a cost. (Luke 14:25-33)

-A disciple begins seeing things more as eternal or \_\_\_\_\_, spiritual or \_\_\_\_\_  
...there becomes less and less middle ground/gray areas in life. Everything becomes less casual and more serious. (Luke 11:23, 16:13, 18)

### Let's Summarize:

-In the 4<sup>th</sup> stage of discipleship a disciple should clearly understand that God desires them to **serve others** and that God has given them an \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ **role** in serving the body.

-This emphasis of service starts at the individual level; **@home** with serving their spouse, children & family, **@work/play** with friends, co-workers & neighbors and then corporately **@church** in official and non-official roles.

-The 4<sup>th</sup> stage of discipleship should focus on ministry \_\_\_\_\_. A disciple's spiritual gifts should be evaluated and they should then be equipped & trained for ministry.

-The 4<sup>th</sup> stage of discipleship should focus on \_\_\_\_\_ a disciple to soon minister on their own. A disciple should be trusted with more and more responsibility.

-Teaching in the 4<sup>th</sup> stage of discipleship should focus on **the task** that Christ has left to his disciples & church, the **2<sup>nd</sup> coming** of Christ, the **judgement** of the world & **eternal rewards** etc.

-The 4<sup>th</sup> stage of discipleship should focus on helping a disciple to see \_\_\_\_\_ through the lens of eternity. It is in the 4<sup>th</sup> stage that remaining worldly habits, addictions, expenses, possessions etc. should be evaluated in the light of eternity.

-In the 4<sup>th</sup> stage of discipleship a disciple is **ever aware of their limited time on earth** & they **seek to maximize their impact** through love & service for God & others.

### Personal Notes: