



Part 10 – Serving Compassionately

If you've ever experienced really good customer service then you know it's easy to get used to being served. And many of us have. We're tempted to live like we're always the customer, but Jesus points us to a much better way of seeing the world.

Scripture: Isaiah 1:11-17, Mark 10:42-45

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever been somewhere (maybe a store, hotel or restaurant, etc.) where you got excellent customer service? What did it feel like? It's easy for us to start to look at life as if we are always the customer, entitled to be served. What do you think are some of the collective effects of this kind of mindset on our culture?
2. Read Isaiah 1:11-17. What are God's complaints against the people in this passage? What is His view on their religious practices? Search for 'sacrifices,' 'new moon' celebrations, 'Sabbath', etc. in the Bible. Who prescribes them? Why is God so angry with these ceremonies in Isaiah 1?
3. Based on this passage (and others like it), what are some of the ways that people's view of God/religion effect how they treat other people?
4. Read what Jesus says in Mark 10:42-45. How does this put into perspective how Jesus calls us to live in relation to people in need?
5. Can you think of (and/or look up in your Bible) ways that Jesus served other people? What are some of the needs that he met and how did he meet them? Are there lessons that we can learn about how we can serve the people in our lives?

Moving Forward

Do you have a routine in your schedule for serving others? Where and how do you do that? What motivates you to make that a consistent part of your life? Are there opportunities for your group to serve together? What 'rewards' do you get from volunteering or serving others?