

Who Are You Working For?

by Juliane Wiebracht



Ever have one of those moments at work, or at home, when someone makes a careless comment that leads you to feel unappreciated and taken for granted? Your head spins with all the sacrifices you've made, how hard you've worked, and you realize that you're not getting trophies or pats on the back... and you feel really stuck. Am I working all these years for no promotion? No accolades? Just to be taken for granted? And yet, in that moment of sincere discouragement, a question floats to the surface, "Who are we working for anyway?" The truth springs up in Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV) "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

With this truth in mind, I find a new longing to be a servant, even though I know it is a lifetime of serving that I am called to

because I have begun to see that serving God and also serving people, is an honor in God's eyes. Did Jesus not say in Mark 9:35 "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all."? Just as Jesus himself gave us this example of serving in Mark 10:45 (NIV) "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

And now we begin to see past the trophies, the promotion, or maybe just the appreciation that we long for from our spouse, children, family or friends... As much as we crave all those things, it becomes evident that there is something far sweeter. What would I not give to face God one day, to look in the face of my Jesus and hear the words in Matthew 25:21 (NKJV) "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' "

And suddenly, in the beauty and joy of the desire to hear those words, the praise of man quickly pales and fades. Like a new sweater that was once so in vogue and is now completely out of style. What is the praise of a person, a company, even the world when compared to the praise of God? So today, if

you are weary and discouraged, dust off the dirt and debris from the garments of your soul and remember who you are laboring for. Not for this world and all its dissolving pleasures, but for God and all His eternal blessings. ✚

*For he who sows to his flesh will
of the flesh reap corruption,
but he who sows to the Spirit
will of the Spirit reap everlasting
life. And let us not grow
weary while doing good, for in
due season we shall reap if we
do not lose heart.*

— Galatians 6:8-9 (ESV)

Juliane Wiebracht is a homemaker in Longview, TX who shares God's love with women who are incarcerated.