



Honor Those Who Are Always Abounding!

Always Abounding in Serving through the Local Church – Part 1

Lesson 7 • 1 Corinthians 16:10-12, 15-18

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.”

We Are to Always Abound in Serving the Lord Until He Comes to Rapture Us or Raise Us from the Dead!

We motivate one another to always abound in serving when we _____ for always abounding!

HONOR those who are ALWAYS ABOUNDING in SERVING LORD to help them KEEP ABOUNDING and help others START ABOUNDING!

Five Ways to Honor Those Who Are Always Abounding in Serving the Lord

1. Give them the _____ they deserve. *“Therefore acknowledge such men.” 16:18*

Two Dangers to Avoid in Serving the Lord and His Local Church

- Serving _____ for recognition from people. *Ephesians 6:6; Colossians 3:22; Galatians 1:10; 1Thessalonians 2:4; 1Cor 4:1-5*
- Expecting others to serve _____ any recognition from people. *Romans 16:1-16*

2. Give them the _____ they need. *“...send him on his way...” 16:11*

*I commend to you our sister Phoebe, who is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea; that you receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and **THAT YOU HELP HER IN WHATEVER MATTER SHE MAY HAVE NEED OF YOU**; for she herself has also been a helper of many, and of myself as well. *Romans 16:1-2**

Resources that Honor Those Who Are Always Abounding in Serving

- Financial resources
- Physical resources
- Personnel resources
- Equipping resources
- Spiritual resources

3. Give them the _____ support they want. *“See that he is with you without cause to be afraid...So let no one despise him.” 16:10-11*

- Paul wanted the relational support of others as he was abounding in serving the Lord. (16:17-18)

NAS *“I rejoice over the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have supplied what was lacking on your part. For they have refreshed my spirit and yours. Therefore acknowledge such men.”*

NET *“...because they have supplied the fellowship with you that I lacked.”*

ESV *“...because they have made up for your absence...”*

NLT *“They have been providing the help you weren’t here to give me.”*

► Paul honored others with relational support as they abounded in serving the Lord. (16:10-11)

1) Drive out _____ with loving acceptance. (v. 10)

2) Don't _____ them but honor them for doing the Lord's work. (v. 11)

- Don't be **condescending** toward them or let others look down on them.
- Don't be **critical** of them or let others judge them harshly.
- Don't be **competitive** with them or let others form cliques of comparison or cults of celebrity! (3:1-9; 16:12)

4. Give them the _____ no one deserves. "...But send him on his way in peace..." 16:11

How to Honor One Another with Reconciliation

- "Take the journey" to make things right or see if there is anything wrong. *Matthew 5:21-26; 18:15-18*
- Be forgiving in order to ask and give forgiveness just as God in Christ has forgiven us. *Colossians 3:12-13; Matthew 6:12, 14; 18:25-26*
- Cover the majority of differences with the blanket of love. *1Peter 4:8*
- Take the initiative to be a mediator that brings those in conflict together for reconciliation. *Philippians 4:2-3*

5. Give them the _____ the Lord requires. "that you also be in subjection to such men and to everyone who helps in the work and labors." 16:16

"Honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king." *1Peter 2:17*

An Unpopular Way and an Unexpected Way of Showing Respect to Those Abounding in Serving

- **The Unpopular Way:** _____ to those God has given and the church has appointed to lead. *Hebrews 13:7, 17; 1 Thessalonians 5:12*
- **The Unexpected Way:** Submit yourself to _____ who helps in the work and labors.
 - 1) Remember that every member is a _____! *1Corinthians 12:4-7*
 - 2) Realize that every minister is _____ the Lord's work as they labor! *1 Corinthians 16:10-11; Romans 16:1-2; 3John 5-8*
 - 3) Every worker deserves to be given the _____ the Lord requires! *1Corinthians 12:14-26*

Honor Those Who Are Always Abounding in the Work of the Lord to Help Them Keep Abounding and Help Others Start Abounding!

"You must show your appreciation to all who serve so well." *1Cor 16:18 (NLT)*

- If you are pastor, ministry leader, or GrowGroup leader, take time to think through these five ways to honor those who are abounding in the work of the Lord on your staff, your team, or your group. **Then abound in honoring those who are always abounding in serving the Lord!**
- If you are a team member on a ministry team (and every member should be!), take time to think through these five ways to honor those who lead you and work alongside of you. **Then abound in honoring those who are always abounding in serving the Lord!**