

I. What servants of God do (v. 1-6)

A. Servants of God rely upon God’s help

“I can do everything through him who gives me strength.” (Philippians 4:13)

B. Servants of God display great persistence

C. Servants of God are committed to God’s truth

“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.” (2 Timothy 2:15)

D. Servants of God proclaim the gospel as a sacred trust

“At his appointed season he brought his word to light through the preaching entrusted to me by the command of God our Savior.” (Titus 1:3)

E. Servants of God seek to please God alone

“Finally, brothers, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more.” (I Thessalonians 4:1)

II. How servants of God serve (v. 7-12)

A. They serve like a loving mother

1. Serving with a gentle spirit

“By the meekness and gentleness of Christ, I appeal to you.” (2 Corinthians 10:1)

2. Serving with a caring love

B. They serve like a concerned father

1. Serving through hard work

2. Serving through a good example

3. Serving through urging spiritual growth

“As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.” (Ephesians 4:1)

III. How servants of God are rewarded (v. 13-16)

A. They are thankful that God was working

1. The word of God was heard

“How can they call on the one they have not believe in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? “ (Romans 10:14)

2. The word of God was accepted

3. The word of God was at work in them

“Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.” (Deuteronomy 11:18)

*Picture of Jewish man at the Western Wall

B. They are thankful that they were growing in their faith

C. They are thankful that they were faithful despite suffering