

Hallmark of a Healthy Church – Service
Serving from Below
1 Corinthians 12:3-13/Romans 12:3-5

- I. We're starting a new series today.
 - a. It's been since 2004 since we first studied "Purpose-Driven Church."
 - b. Since that time we've adopted those purposes.
 - i. We've structured ourselves around those purposes.
 - ii. We budget our lives together by those purposes.
 - c. Our mission statement reflects it.
 - i. the mission statement
 - ii. Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples.
 - d. Four years later, it's time for a refresher course.
 - i. Because vision leaks.
 1. Nehemiah built the walls of Jerusalem from rubble to the heights in 52 days.
 2. He started by laying out a vision for the rebuilding of the walls and then they got to work.
 3. After 52 days, what did Nehemiah do?
 4. He laid that vision out before them again
 - e. So let's remind ourselves why we're here.
 - i. Why we are the church.
 - ii. What makes the church unique – what are the hallmarks of a church that knows it's purpose.
- II. What can we say about leadership?
 - a. John Maxwell – A leader is someone with followers.
 - i. If you look behind you and no one is following - you are not a leader.
 - ii. A leader leads.
 - b. What about Jesus' leadership?
- III. Jesus' leadership is leadership from below.
 - a. Serving.
 - i. Washing feet.
 - ii. Feeding the poor.
 - iii. Caring for the sick.
 - b. This is different

- i. Not power.
- ii. Not coercion.
- iii. Not force of personality.
- iv. Serving.

IV. Paul puts it this way – “I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling.”

- a. Leading from your knees.
- b. Doesn't make sense to the world.
 - i. 1 Corinthians 12 - the implications of the body image.
 - ii. Some parts are more prized than others.
 - iii. Wrong headed thinking – worldly mindset.
- c. In the kingdom, it's the lesser parts that are greater.
 - i. It's serving that determines how you are leading.
 - ii. It's authority that rises up from below.
 - iii. Not power that imposes itself from above.
- d. Serving, lowering yourself.
 - i. Is leadership.
 - ii. It is authoritative.

V. What does that mean for us?

- a. We need servants.
 - i. Unapologetically we need servants.
 - ii. Servants list – visible way we can see it.
 - iii. Where do you fit in?
 - iv. We dedicate one person's ministry to overseeing service.
 - v. We equip people for service.
- b. Care ministry.
 - i. Food.
 - ii. Sitters.
 - iii. ...
- c. Leadership development.
 - i. Leadership can be taught.
 - ii. At least grown and refined.
 - iii. How will we do that? Who will do it?

VI. A chance to respond.

- a. For all of us there should be ...
 - i. A place to worship.
 - ii. A place to grow. (discipleship)
 - iii. A place to reach out. (mission)

- iv. A place to serve.
- b. Servants – nursery, frontline, what ministry will you pick up?
 - i. Where is your passion?
 - ii. Do you have the burden?
- c. Name
 - i. Where do you serve?
 - ii. Where do you want to be serving?