



Servant's Corner

August 2010

What Does It Take To Serve? By Rich Henderson, Director

I've been told that at the end of World War II as the Russian Army entered Berlin; the faucets started disappearing from German buildings. The rural soldiers of the Russian Army had never seen indoor plumbing before. To them, the faucets were magic. They thought they could just take the faucets home, attach them to the walls of their farmhouses, twist the handle and water would magically appear. They didn't realize that there was a huge infrastructure behind those faucets: reservoirs, pipes, drains, and sewers.

We make the same mistake if we think we can serve others without an adequate interior infrastructure in place. Serving does not come naturally to us. Selfishness does. If we desire to become like Jesus, Who came not "to be served, but to serve" (Matthew 20:28), it will require that we cooperate with the Holy Spirit in cultivating our interior life.

I read an obituary recently of John Walker Gibson, a member of St Luke Lutheran Church in Sunnyvale. It stated that John "started his days with prayer and meditation so that he could be of service and give freely to others." He spent time on his spiritual infrastructure so that life-giving streams of Christian service could pour out to others. May we also cultivate our spiritual lives so that we can serve in a Christ-honoring way.



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