



Servant's Corner

September 2010

Serving In Silence By Rich Henderson, Director

Many years ago I was part of a group of pastors who were planning a city-wide clean up of neighborhood parks. The thought was that the reputation of the church would be enhanced by meeting a tangible community need. In discussing the details, one of the pastors said, "We should let the newspaper know what we are doing." I thought about it and quipped, "Yeah, that's what we need--a **highly publicized** servant event." Everyone laughed as they saw the incongruity of publicizing our effort to serve.

In the Sermon On The Mount, Jesus warns about practicing our righteousness before men to be noticed by them (Matthew 6:1). I've had occasions where the Lord has called me to secrecy concerning an act of service. I **hate** that! At the very least, I want to let my wife know--to convince her what a great guy she married! In Celebration Of Discipline, Richard Foster correctly observes that the flesh (our sin nature) "*whines against service but screams against hidden service*". He points out that when we serve in silence, we crucify the flesh and cultivate humility instead.

Try this experiment: Meet a need, but keep it between yourself and God. If your attitude is right, your reward will be waiting for you in heaven.



Servant's Corner

September 2010

Serving In Silence By Rich Henderson, Director

Many years ago I was part of a group of pastors who were planning a city-wide clean up of neighborhood parks. The thought was that the reputation of the church would be enhanced by meeting a tangible community need. In discussing the details, one of the pastors said, "We should let the newspaper know what we are doing." I thought about it and quipped, "Yeah, that's what we need--a **highly publicized** servant event." Everyone laughed as they saw the incongruity of publicizing our effort to serve.

In the Sermon On The Mount, Jesus warns about practicing our righteousness before men to be noticed by them (Matthew 6:1). I've had occasions where the Lord has called me to secrecy concerning an act of service. I **hate** that! At the very least, I want to let my wife know--to convince her what a great guy she married! In Celebration Of Discipline, Richard Foster correctly observes that the flesh (our sin nature) "*whines against service but screams against hidden service*". He points out that when we serve in silence, we crucify the flesh and cultivate humility instead.

Try this experiment: Meet a need, but keep it between yourself and God. If your attitude is right, your reward will be waiting for you in heaven.