

WE WILLINGLY MINISTER TO 3 AREAS

- To peoples _____ needs (Matthew 25:35-36, 40).
- To peoples _____ needs (1 Thess. 5:14).
- To peoples _____ needs (2 Cor. 5:18; Col. 1:28-29).

God is more interested in our _____ than our _____. He is more delighted in our _____ than our _____.

GOT EXCUSES?

- † I AM TOO _____ OR TOO _____.
- † I AM NOT _____ OR _____ ENOUGH.
- † I AM NOT _____ ENOUGH.
- † I AM JUST _____ TO BE _____.
- † I AM _____ OF _____ OR _____.

3. God uses those who are _____.

2 Timothy 2:19-22: “Nevertheless, God’s solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: “The Lord knows those who are his,” and, “Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness.” (v.20)

In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. (v.21) **If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.**” (v.22) Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.”

Psalm 51:1-13

Isaiah 6:1-8

TRUTH: _____ COMES BEFORE

_____.

4. God uses those who are _____.

_____.

Romans 12:1-2: “Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. (v.2) Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

To be used by God we must daily surrender ourselves to his purposes in our lives. In Romans 12:1-2 we are called to ‘surrender’ ourselves to God as ‘*living sacrifices*’ because of God’s mercy in saving us from our sin and his wrath (Romans chapters 1-11). It is from a life of daily surrender that God desires to use each of us to get dirty in ministry for him (Romans 12:3-8).

TRUTH: _____ COMES BEFORE

_____.

WHO DOES GOD USE?

God delights to use ordinary people who are willing to serve him with a clean and surrendered heart!

Will you allow God to use you in serving him @ SMC?

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

THIS WEEK: *Consider planning something FUN together as a small group.*

PRAYER: As you pray this week, please remember to pray for our mission's team, Good Friday and Easter Services, and the many other exciting events SMC has planned.

1. Take a few minutes to talk through this Sunday's message? What challenged you? Encouraged you? Inspired you?
2. Share a few examples from your life regarding people that have made a difference in your life. What were they like?
3. Take some time to think about the three areas we willingly minister to in people's lives. Can you think of a time when someone ministered to your physical, spiritual and/or emotional needs? Give some examples. How might you do this to others?
4. Sunday's message touched on several excuses people have for not serving. What are some other excuses you've heard? How might you help someone overcome an excuse?
5. Why does God want us to be clean and surrendered in serving Him (See points 3 &4)? Does this mean we need to be perfect? What does it mean?
6. Are you serving at SMC? If not, would you mind sharing why? If you are serving, take some time to share why you serve.

Today's Message: "The Life God Uses"

Pastor Cory Anderson / 03.29.09

Shadow Mountain Church

INTRODUCTION:

1. God uses _____ people to do the _____.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29: "Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. (v.27) But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. (v.28) He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, (v.29) so that no one may boast before him."

Acts 4:13: "When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus."

2. God uses those who are _____.

WHAT IS MINISTRY?

"Ministry is using whatever God has given me to serve him and the needs of others." Rick Warren