**FOCUS Bible Study - May 18**

[**VIEW RECORDING - 106 mins (No highlights)**](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az)

[@14:23](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=863.58" \t "_blank) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

I'm gonna let start but people in here now So we got Aaron and and couple of others coming in So Good morning morning Aaron Good morning.

We got a couple of new people it looks like hi zoom user I'm rick. What we can't hear you yet.

You're still connecting. It looks like Okay, try now. Oh, you're on mute Okay, now it's my first time hello everyone and good morning What's your name?

[@14:57](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=897.44) - **Zoom user**

Angie angie nice to have you this morning Yes. My first time in this Bible study.

[@15:04](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=904.16) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Well, great. We're glad you came.

[@15:05](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=905.4) - **Zoom user**

How did you find out about us? Through Meetup, I've joined Meetup in, know, like, Pecal Ball or like, singles, singles here.

And so I found this focus Bible study and decided to try it out.

[@15:19](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=919.12) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Excellent. Well, we're glad you're here. And where you calling him from?

[@15:23](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=923.9) - **Zoom user**

Milwaukee, Greenfield.

[@15:25](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=925.54) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Oh, you're very close to us.

[@15:26](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=926.68) - **Zoom user**

in Johnson. know. When I saw that you're from Brookfield, that's kind of really nearby Waukesha County.

[@15:33](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=933.16) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah. Well, the Meetup put us in Brookfield. I don't know why, but that's where it lists us at. physically, we're in Johnson Creek here.

We got some people in Cottage Grove and some people in Cambria. Yeah. Say hi, Lori. Hi, Aaron.

[@15:46](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=946.22) - **Zoom user**

They're in Cambria. Hello.

[@15:48](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=948.56) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

And we got Brian who's in Cottage Grove.

[@15:51](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=951.08) - **Zoom user**

Hello.

[@15:51](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=951.36) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

So Kat joined us. Good morning, Kat. Kat's in Tennessee. Yeah. How are you doing this morning, Kat? Good. Good.

your birds behind you this morning?

[@16:08](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=968.66) - **Owner’s iPhone**

No, we're in the car.

[@16:13](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=973.66) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Okay. Yeah, it's best that you drive and not the birds. Good morning, Cindy.

[@16:21](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=981.24) - **Owner’s iPhone**

Mike. Good morning.

[@16:24](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=984.0) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Good You kind of cutting in and out a little bit, Kat. So it's a little difficult to hear, but we're glad that you're on this morning.

We're not catching you, but thank you. Cindy, Mike. She's gots trying to say something, but we're only catching it.

[@16:46](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1006.54) - **Owner’s iPhone**

No, we're.

[@16:55](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1015.94) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Again, Kat, we're just going to try to jump off and jump back on, apparently. Good morning. Good morning, Cindy.

[@17:01](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1021.4) - **Mike**

glad you hear this morning. Good morning.

[@17:05](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1025.8) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Morning, Erin. How are you doing this morning?

[@17:09](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1029.64) - **Erin Ashcraft**

Good morning. morning. Stopping my breakfast last minute here.

[@17:13](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1033.1) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

That's all right. Totally understand. There's Cad again. Oh, yes. We heard that. now we're back to the cutoff. Sorry.

Well, if you can hear us, that's important. Yes, we will post scriptures as soon as we get started here.

We got Luke joining us as well this morning. We're at 901, but since we still have people jumping on, let's just look at another minute or two before we get started.

Plus my wife who's in the background, you heard her sneeze, but didn't see her face. Good morning, Luke.

[@18:01](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1081.04) - **Luke Huffman**

Good morning.

[@18:04](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1084.0) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

We're glad you hear this morning, Luke. Thank you for joining us. Alright, hopefully everyone's having a good start to the weekend.

Have a friend of mine that hopefully maybe she'll come on this morning. But if not, we'll just ask that she lift her up in prayer.

Her name is Jackie. Okay, so think about Jackie this morning and just say a prayer for her. She could use some encouragement.

Now I see Jamie join Brian, hi Jamie, morning. Okay, we're at 902 and I think we're probably pretty good to start then.

If that's alright with everybody. We'll open up with the word of prayer and then we got something special for you this morning.

Alright, Lord Jesus, thank you for this opportunity to come together. Thank you for the beautiful day that you've given us, Lord.

Just pray that you would help us open our hearts and yield to you, speak into our lives, it is you know that we need.

God let your Holy Spirit loose poured upon everyone, Lord God, because Lord, we want everything that you have for us.

We honor you. We give you glory. We give you praise and Jesus mighty name. Amen. Well, this morning, I am actually going to turn it over to Lori Nelson on the screen here.

She goes by Lori. It's your last name for me.

[@19:34](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1174.32) - **Laurie Nelson**

It's actually Reckner. Sorry, I was just posting some of the scriptures in the chat, but yes, it's Reckner now.

[@19:40](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1180.88) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

That's my married name. So, Lori Reckner is going to lead us this morning in the Bible study, and I'm actually glad because I had a very busy week and I would not have had time to prepare.

So, we talked about a month or so ago, Lori, was it? Yep. And we were having a conversation, God just letting me to ask her to prepare.

And I did not know that I would have so much going on this week, so it was all right.

God timing thing. God appoints timing and he works everything out perfectly.

[@20:04](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1204.62) - **Laurie Nelson**

Laurie, I'm going to let you take it away. All right. Thank you, Rick. I just want to start by thanking God because he has brought me out of so much trial.

He's brought me out of so much darkness. And that's truly what his gospel is for. A little bit about me, nine years ago, I was saved, born again.

I was in the darkest place of my life. It was truly I had been running in the worst direction possible for a very long time.

And I had gotten myself so entangled in sin and darkness that shame was just drowning me. I didn't have any hope.

I didn't think God even existed. If he did how even if he did, I wondered how, how if He really even mattered because, you know, he wasn't active in my life every day.

You know, what was active in my life every day was sin and was darkness, was striving for my own perfection and striving to make my own life work and happen for myself.

And maybe that works for some people, but I think if everybody's honest with themselves, they can say that it really doesn't work without God.

And so here I am today, nine years later, he has blessed me in so many ways. Not that life has been easy, but life has definitely been worth the living just because he lived, as the old hymn says.

And so he gave me this message to share with everybody today. I truly believe that he has walked me through a lot of it.

I truly believe that this is the heart that every Christian needs to have right now. I think it's so.

so important to so I'm just going to jump right into it. And if you all don't mind helping learn with me and reading the scriptures with me, that would be great.

We're going to start in Matthew. I did post them in the chat. All the scripture readings. If you want a full list of them so you can kind of be ready.

[@22:18](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1338.78) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

I know flipping is sometimes hard for those of you who are on screen. Can you just give me a thumbs up if you see the list just to make sure Okay.

In the chat, if you're in the chat, Angie, I think then you should be able to see them down down in the bottom.

You should see little icon that says the word chat.

[@22:40](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1360.24) - **Zoom user**

Hold on. Yes, I can see it now. Perfect. Okay. Let me go grab my Bible.

[@22:44](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1364.92) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Sure. And it looks like we got a person joining your cat. He's jumping on.

[@22:48](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1368.66) - **Laurie Nelson**

So if we could just wait one more minute while she's doing that too.

[@22:52](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1372.72) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

One second one. looks like we'll be in Matthew 23 verse 11, Laurie said. Thank you for pausing Lori.

[@23:02](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1382.38) - **Laurie Nelson**

Yeah, no problem.

[@23:04](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1384.04) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

We appreciate the background and you're sharing and being vulnerable this morning.

[@23:07](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1387.06) - **Laurie Nelson**

Thank you. Thank you. The more the merrier.

[@23:12](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1392.42) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Okay, welcome Kathy. think we're ready to get to begin as soon as Angie comes back and here she comes.

Alright, great. Okay, so we're at Matthew 23 verse 11, right Lori?

[@23:33](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1413.4) - **Laurie Nelson**

That's right. So Rick, why don't you just help us jump off with this in Matthew 23 11 if you don't My pleasure.

[@23:43](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1423.3) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

[@23:48](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1428.06) - **Laurie Nelson**

Now this is the entire foundation of not just this Bible study, but truly the life of a Christian. but he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

Now we're going to jump to the next scripture in Revelation chapter 4 verses 10 through 11 and Brian if whenever you have that can you read that for us?

[@24:17](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1457.48) - **Brian**

Revelation 4.

[@24:19](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1459.8) - **Laurie Nelson**

Revelation 4 verses 10 through 11.

[@24:25](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1465.18) - **Brian**

The 24 elders fell down, fell down before him who sits on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever and cast their crowns before the throne saying you are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power for you created all things and by your will they exist and were created.

[@24:47](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1487.96) - **Laurie Nelson**

So we're going to kind of start to develop a little bit of a picture here of the heart of a believer.

I'm just going to all these scriptures wash over everybody. I'm not going to try to add too much to them or like my own.

opinion or anything like that. just want you to really hear these scriptures and let them wash over you because they really are the basis for this whole Bible study.

So he says these 24 elders had their crowns and they cast them at the feet of the throne and who seated on the throne but got himself and they said you are worthy, O Lord, to receive the glory and the honor.

So they even had crowns and they cast them off at his feet. And next we're in Mark chapter 15 verse 17.

And Aaron, whenever you, oh, I'm sorry, I think I skipped, zoom user. If you want to read Mark, is that Angie?

[@25:51](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1551.98) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah.

[@25:53](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1553.98) - **Laurie Nelson**

Angie, if you want to read Mark chapter 15 verse 17.

[@25:58](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1558.3) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

And if you're not comfortable reading Angie, we just say pass and then we'll just, that's quite all right. We want everyone to feel comfortable about whether they want to read.

[@26:06](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1566.1) - **Zoom user**

It's Mark 15 verse 17 and they clothed him with purple and they twisted a crown of thorns, put it on his head.

[@26:19](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1579.0) - **Laurie Nelson**

That's right. So they rolled him and then they they platted together a crown of thorns and they put it on Jesus' head.

So we're reading about he that is greatest among you is your servant and then we go into reading about how these elders had crowns that they cast at the feet of the throne, the foot of the throne and then we read about Jesus' crown that he wore while he was here and how it was platted and made of thorns and how painful that must have been.

So now we're moving to Matthew chapter 10 verses 24 through 33 and this is kind of a little bit of a

longer one. And Aaron, if you have that, you can start reading that if you don't mind.

[@27:15](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1635.02) - **Erin Ashcraft**

Yes, ma'am. The disciple is not about his master nor the servant above his lord. It is enough for the disciples that he be as his master and the servant as his lord.

If they have called the master of the house bells above, how much more shall they call them of his household?

Fear them not, therefore, for there's nothing covered that shall not be revealed and hid that and hid that shall not be known.

What I tell you in darkness that speak you in light and what you hear in the ear that preachy upon the housetops and fear not them which kill the body but are not able to kill the soul.

But rather fear for him, which is able to destroy both soul and body and hell are not two sparrows sold for a farthing.

And one of them shall not fall on the ground without your father. But the very hearers of your head are all numbered.

So the last one, yeah.

[@28:17](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1697.68) - **Laurie Nelson**

So we're starting to get a picture of not only what Jesus' heart looked like, but what our heart is supposed to look like and then how we're going to be taken care of if our hearts look like that.

If we allow Jesus' example to penetrate our hearts. And I just want these scriptures to wash over you. Like I said, the disciple is not above his master nor the servant above his lord.

And Jesus in John chapter 13 verses 15 through 16 says, for I have given you an example that you should do as I have done to you.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, the servant is not greater than his Lord, neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him.

So we're starting to see the Lord build this amazing example for what we are supposed to be like. So the perfect heart looks like this.

The perfect heart doesn't look like perfection. I just want to put that out there. We have a very Americanized view of perfection, especially in such a fast paced world where we have to be mom and dad.

We have to be provider. have to be, you know, we have to be all these jobs in one and we have to do them all perfectly.

But that's not what the perfect heart looks like to God. Yes, he blesses us in those jobs, but the perfect heart to God looks a lot like when we're willing to be a servant to all.

when we are willing to serve instead of be served, and we're gonna learn more about that. So, our next reading is in Luke chapter 22, verses 24 through 30, because as we know in our Christian world view, we know that Jesus Christ is Lord, but then we have our brothers and sisters who we sometimes, instead of loving, we just try to put up with.

And sometimes we don't even do that very well, do we? Sometimes we're in a lot of competition with each other.

We backbite each other way too often because of disagreements, vain arguments, even doctrinal things that are important to us.

We will slaughter our brothers and sisters. over rather than serve and win them with a perfect heart and win them with the heart of Christ.

so in Luke chapter 22 verses 24 through 30, Luke, do you mind reading and starting us off in Luke?

[@31:20](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1880.94) - **Luke Huffman**

I'm in a pass.

[@31:22](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1882.3) - **Laurie Nelson**

I'm sorry. That's okay. How about you, Mike?

[@31:33](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1893.86) - **Mike**

Yeah, I can read it. Luke 22, 24, is that right?

[@31:41](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1901.92) - **Laurie Nelson**

Yep, that's where we're starting through 30.

[@31:45](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1905.26) - **Mike**

Didn't dispute a rose among them about who should be considered the greatest. But he said to them, the kings of the Gentiles dominate them and those who have authority over them are called benefactors.

But must not be like that among you. On the contrary, whoever is greatest among you must be like the youngest, and whoever leads like the one serving.

For who is greater, the one at the table or the one serving? Isn't it the one at the table?

But I am among you as the one who serves. You are the ones who stood by me in my trials.

I bestow on you a kingdom, just as my father bestow one on me, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom.

And you will sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

[@32:45](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=1965.96) - **Laurie Nelson**

So there is a, it's funny he's talking about sitting at the table, sitting at meat is what my version says.

It's funny that he says that because he's feeding us a lot in the scripture in Luke. He's telling us that, listen, you guys, you're not supposed to be competing with one another.

That's not the point. You are members of the same body. Can you imagine if one part of your body was competing with the other, have you ever had an autoimmune disorder?

I know you know what I'm talking about. I personally have type 1 diabetes, and that basically an autoimmune disease is when your own body is fighting off itself, its own cells, so it's killing off parts of itself.

And that's not the way that it's supposed to be. I believe you're raising your hand, Rick.

[@33:41](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2021.82) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, if that's all right.

[@33:43](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2023.58) - **Laurie Nelson**

Yeah.

[@33:44](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2024.44) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah. So I love the direction you're going with this, and what struck me with this particular scripture is when he says at the end of what we read that you may eat and drink at my table and sit on thrones, judging the 12 tribes of Israel, what thought hit me was that...

You can't properly judge or rule over someone unless you've been in their shoes, right? Unless you've served and ministered or experienced, I guess, the same thing that someone else has experienced.

How can you properly judge them, right? Because even Scripture says with the same comfort that we're comforted with, therefore we comfort others.

So if I've never experienced loneliness or depression or hurt or like you're pointing out like this autoimmune disease, right, carried some kind of heavy weight, how can I build the strength to carry the weight of somebody else, right?

You want to build that strength through servanthood?

[@34:44](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2084.72) - **Laurie Nelson**

That's a really good point, Rick. It reminds me of the Scripture that Paul talks about when he says, I am become all things to all men that I might by all means save some.

He's not saying I'm going to go out and I'm going to come meant every sin that everybody has ever done.

I don't think that's what he's saying there. think he's saying exactly what you were saying, Rick. You know, unless I walk a mile in someone's shoes and I truly try to get understanding, the Bible says in all your getting, get understanding.

Well, he's not skipping over the part where we're supposed to be getting understanding of what other people are experiencing and going through so that we can serve them, so that we truly can be all things to all men that we might by all means save some of them.

[@35:30](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2130.54) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, you're treating another thought to me when he said walking a mile in someone else's shoes, right? There's the parable when Jesus says, you know, somebody requires you to walk a mile, don't just walk a mile, walk a second mile.

And what he was alluding to was in the days of the Romans, the soldiers would grab people from off the street and make them serve, you know, as they were marching, they throw their backpack on them, so to speak, and make them care.

it, you know, as they went through the town, it could be a mile or whatever. And so Jesus was saying, even think about this, you know, servitude should come from a heart of we want to, but sometimes we're pressed into it.

And yes, you're self pressed into it as a Christian, even you shouldn't resist what you're pressed into. In fact, you should embrace it and take it even a step further, go a second mile, because you start to show the love of God, because then they go, wow, wait a minute, you know, I was making you do this, but all of a sudden, know, here, I thought I was giving dominion by making you do this.

But now by you taking on the attitude of, oh, you're going to do it anyway. Wait a minute, I just lost the power I thought I had over you.

[@36:44](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2204.16) - **Laurie Nelson**

Yes, yes. displaying that kind of servant leadership, that kind of love to other people, that's, that's what will break through some of the stoniest hearts.

You And so there are a couple of big points in Luke that I want to that I really want to point out.

First is that he's challenging them. Is it greater to sit at meat? Is it greater to sit at the table to be the one that's getting to eat all the food and be served all of this awesome stuff?

Have you ever been to a really great restaurant and they're just serving you some some good food and you're like yes this is the life right here but he's telling us that in the spirit it's he said yes that is great that is a great feeling that it is better it is a better feeling to do that right but he says I don't come to do that I don't come to just recline at the table and and have everybody serve me that's not the example that he gave us now he did sit and eat at the table with his disciples as one like they were all as

one. I think that's why he washed their feet first. He's like, listen, we're all at this table together. We're not like up here and then down here and then somewhere down here and somewhere down here.

There wasn't like this Christmas tree hierarchy. Jesus had this servant leadership about him where he encouraged everybody to follow the example that he laid for them.

And so he said, yes, it does feel great to sit at the table and get served all this great meat.

But I don't come to do that. I came to be the one to serve you. And I think that had he acted like God while he was here, in the way that in the sense that we think of God as powerful and with all the authority and had he sat on his throne as soon as he got here in human flesh, I think that might have been the opposite.

It would have accomplished. the opposite in us. We would have then thought, oh, this is our example, we are supposed to sit down at the table and get served.

You know, we are like God, we are supposed, but no, that's not the example that he laid for us.

He knew exactly what he was doing when he was here. That's why he prayed out loud, even he's like, Lord, he's like, Father, I'm doing this so that everybody can see that this is what they're supposed to do, you know, before he called Lazarus out.

He was saying, he was praying, he's like, Lord, I don't really need to be doing this, but I'm doing it so that these other people hear me doing it.

See, he was always very, very conscientious of the example that he was laying for those of us who would walk after him.

He was very, very attentive to that. Because he knew that we're kind of monkey, see monkey do a little bit, right?

Like, we're going to watch what Jesus does, and then we're going to try to do that. So had he come and acted like this big great God, we would have definitely followed in those footsteps and acted like this big great God, when really we're supposed to be servants.

Really, that is what changes people. And that's the kind of heart he wants in us. That is what he considers a perfect heart.

And everywhere in scripture just backs that up to me. And we're going to continue to see that throughout these scriptures.

So keep that meat in mind.

[@40:54](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2454.9) - **Sindy**

We're to to 24 45.

[@41:00](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2460.0) - **Laurie Nelson**

A faithful, sensible servant is one to whom the master can give the responsibility of managing his other household servants and feeding them." Yes.

In the version that I have written down here, says, who then is a faithful and wise servant whom his Lord has made ruler over his household to give them meat in due season?

So not only are we supposed to serve while we're here, but we're also supposed to expect that meat to come back to us.

So you know, instead of sitting at the table and demanding that the servants serve us meat, he is the one that serves us the meat in due season, right?

We're supposed to weigh down the Lord, and that's how we renew our strength. He renews our strength by giving us the meat.

We're supposed to depend on him for that. We're not supposed to sit at table and expect everyone to everything to be served to us.

We are supposed to serve. then in return, God is the one that fulfills every need in us. He says, if he continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed?

And remember in Luke in verse 28 when he said, ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations.

Now look at the parallel when he says, if ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed?

So those who continued with him are the ones that he appointed the kingdom, the ones who continued with him in his word.

He says, you are my disciples indeed. You are the ones that I'm going to give responsibility to rule over my household.

So wait a minute, isn't that the opposite of everything we've been taught here in this world, that servants don't ever rise to any type of authority.

servants don't ever get exalted, you know, like, they're the they're the dirt of the world, you know, they don't ever get lifted up and exalted.

But here we're saying, wait a minute, the servants of the spirit are the ones that get fed the meat.

They're the ones that get the responsibility. They're the ones that get to rule over the household. So now we're kind of seeing gods going to maybe exalt someone with a servant's heart.

Yes, Rick.

[@43:30](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2610.06) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, that's cool. What a muscle seeing because I think I think scripture is a layer cake. That's that's the analogy I've been coming up with a lot lately.

I'm trying to teach my daughter a Bible study on the side and it's like you read something as a layer cake, you read it and then there's another depth to it and another depth think of a layer cake with strawberry lemon layer cake, right?

[@43:52](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2632.4) - **Laurie Nelson**

Yeah.

[@43:53](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2633.16) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

the taste of strawberry, the next bite you get the taste of the lemon, the next bite you combine the two and it's like blows your mind, right?

[@44:00](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2640.0) - **Laurie Nelson**

Yeah.

[@44:00](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2640.58) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

So what I'm seeing here is another layer to what you're saying, because when you take the previous scripture, I think it was in Luke about the meat, and you take the scripture here about the meat, what I'm seeing is, you know, we think that sitting at the table is great, that that's the place of position, power, and it's served, right?

But what we don't realize is the real power is the one in the serving, because the picture of Nehemiah hit me about Nehemiah serving the king.

What was he? was a cup bearer, and he was meant to taste the wine before the king did, because right, if somebody was trying to poison the king, it would get to Nehemiah first, and they would know it before the king got it.

So it's almost like his life, Nehemiah's life, was always on the alert, always on the ready, if you will.

And as a servant, you're always should be on the alert, always on the ready, and the real power is in the way.

one serving because Nehemiah could have simply passed on the cup, pretended that he tasted it. And if he had known there was poison there, he could have pretended that he tasted it and gave it to the king.

Because that actually happens.

[@45:11](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2711.08) - **Laurie Nelson**

We see that happening in Scripture. But, and you go to a restaurant, right?

[@45:15](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2715.84) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

And you probably heard this cliche, like treat your waiter nice because otherwise you'll be tasting a little saliva with your meal, right?

wants that, right? Because Jamie's cracking up. Nobody wants that, right? Because we all know deep down in our hearts, whether we acknowledge or not, it's the servant who has the real power.

[@45:37](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2737.96) - **Laurie Nelson**

Yep.

[@45:38](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2738.82) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

We're getting blessed with the nice meal. But the servant who burns that meal from the kitchen knows what it's all in there.

[@45:46](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2746.32) - **Laurie Nelson**

Mm-hmm. You're hitting the nail on the head, Rick. It's think about the cup bearer. There could have been poison in that cup.

You know, that king really had to trust that servant if he was the cup bearer. I mean, he could have just as easily worked with somebody else to tamper with that line and get rid of the king altogether.

I mean, it truly is a position of power. Mike, you have your hand raised.

[@46:18](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2778.28) - **Mike**

Yes, you made me think of 1st 126 to 30, where God starts out not looking at the crowd and the mighty, those of noble birth.

He looks at the insignificant and the despised in the world. Those are the ones he chooses. So he doesn't even start up at the top.

He starts at the bottom to show that we are vessel to play and the power is not ours, but his.

[@46:50](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2810.0) - **Laurie Nelson**

That's absolutely right. And it really, how many times have you guys, as believers, been walking with God and you're just going through it and you're like.

God, what is what's going on here? When I just feel like I'm like, I'm worthless, like I'm just nobody treats me with any respect, you know, there's no, there's no type of honor in this.

And then all of a sudden, you know, as soon as you're in that most desperate position with God at his feet, you're just this vessel of clay at his feet and you're like, God, this is, you're totally vulnerable, you're totally open with him.

And that's when he lifts you up, when you humble yourself before God, that's when he's going to be the one to lift you up.

I just find it so amazing that being in those positions of desperation, there's so much power in that. You know, when you're truly honest with yourself about who you are and you're not all puffed up with pride and you're not peacocking around the place and you're just, you truly are just so lowered and humbled to just serve, to just, okay, where can I?

I would rather hold the door in your house, Lord, than be anywhere else. else than to dwell in tense of wickedness.

And it's true. But now we really have to challenge ourselves because this all sounds very, very good. But it is very hard in practice.

It is very hard to feel like you're just a door holder. It is really hard and it goes against our pride, our ego, which we all have if we're very honest.

It goes against everything that we think means honor and glory. And we have to give that up. We have to cast those crowns at his feet.

And that is where the difficulty lies is in the actual applying it to our hearts and the walking it out really.

So we're going to actually go a little bit deeper into this because we did talk about, you know, God chooses these servants to rule over his household to be responsible for it and to judge even the

12 tribes of Israel, right? So this tells me that this goes really, really deep. This is, this is bigger than us, right?

So we're going to move on to Matthew 25. Now we just, we just asked the question in Matthew 24 that said, who then is a faithful and wise servant who the Lord will help, will let rule over his household.

And now we're going to read about that, about what he says about Matthew 25. And it's going to be verses 31 through 46.

So another long one. And if you don't want to read it all, you just let me know. I think, Kathy, you're next if you want to read.

[@49:56](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=2996.1) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Matthew, you might be on mute if you're responding. Otherwise, we can have Julie Reid and Lori if that's okay.

[@50:08](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3008.74) - **Laurie Nelson**

Sure.

[@50:09](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3009.48) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Julie. Yep. When the other man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne and catch him in glory.

All the nations will be gathered before him and he will separate the people one from another as the shepherds separates the sheep from the goats.

He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will stay to those on his right, come you, you who are blessed by my father, take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.

I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in.

[@50:55](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3055.6) - **Laurie Nelson**

Okay, pause right there, Julie, if you don't mind. In verse 35, it says, For I was hungry and you gave me meat.

Wow, that sounds like something a servant would do. Doesn't sound like someone who was sitting at the table getting fed.

It sounds like somebody who was delivering the food. Okay, you can go on.

[@51:19](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3079.66) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

I need to close and you close me. I will sit and you look after me. I was in prison and you came to visit me.

Then the righteous will answer him. Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you? Or Thursday and give you something to drink?

When did we see you a stranger and invite you in? Or be in close and close you? When did we see you sick or in prison or go to visit you?

The king will reply. I tell you the truth. Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers in line, you did for me.

[@51:59](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3119.18) - **Laurie Nelson**

Okay, pause.

[@52:00](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3120.0) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

I was right there. Okay.

[@52:01](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3121.74) - **Laurie Nelson**

So he's saying, you did all these things. when you did all these things to everybody else, you were really doing them to me.

This is very spiritual because obviously we're not physically giving this.

[@52:22](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3142.7) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Laura, Laura, you ended up on mute, Laurie, Laurie, Hey, Laurie, you ended up on mute. Sorry, you could go back and there you go.

[@52:38](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3158.52) - **Laurie Nelson**

I was getting a call. I think it muted me.

[@52:41](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3161.82) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yep. Yep. You go back. You were saying, obviously this is spiritual.

[@52:46](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3166.08) - **Laurie Nelson**

Obviously this is spiritual because we're not physically giving these things or doing these things to Jesus himself. So this, this tells me that there's an even deeper layer to this servitude that needs to actually be going.

on in our spirits. This this actually needs to be applied when we are doing these things. When we see that a dirty homeless person on the street, we should actually be seeing Jesus Christ, who wore the crown of thorns.

We should actually be seeing our Christ crucified. We should actually in the spirit something should be telling us I cannot do anything but serve this person.

And a lot of times he calls us to serve people who we don't want to serve. Okay. I'm going to be really honest with you.

Sometimes he's going to call us to serve people who we truly just maybe don't like or never got along with, right?

He's going to he's going to challenge us in those ways because he's challenging our spirit and our heart. And where is it really?

he tells us Scripture, do all these things like you're doing them for the Lord, not like you're doing them for man.

Do all these things like you're doing them for me. And that, I don't think he's just telling us that to be like, so that you can stomach it, so that you can just stand to do it.

I think he's doing that because he's really challenging our hearts. He's really challenging our spirits. Where are you really at in this in this servitude?

Where are you truly willing to humble yourself in the way that I did while I was on earth, while I was in a man's body?

Yes, Rick.

[@54:39](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3279.26) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

So it's funny that you say stomach because I have a perfect example for what you're saying. Back in 2011, I was serving the state as a consultant and I was working on a project process for child care providers.

were having their rates set by the state and they didn't like it, right? so a consultant was in before me that is

just kind of mess things up. And so all the child care providers, the heads of these companies and such were already ticked off, if you will.

And I had to come in and coordinate with them. Well, one of them had a very strong personality, was put it nicely out way.

She had a very strong personality. And I did not care for her very much. I did not get along with her.

And I would try to avoid her as much as possible. Well, towards the end of this, as we're wrapping this up, and one day the state had us all come to a place in Waukesha, where everybody was sitting around.

had many tables stretched out into this huge square. And I ended up sitting on one corner of it, and directly crossing the other corner is this woman, who, like I said, the strong personality.

every time I'd look at her, God gave me this picture of a stomach. It was a twisting stomach. And I would think like, that's kind of weird.

I'd look away, look at somebody else, you know, and nothing. But every time I'd look at her, it was this twisting stomach.

And I knew enough that God had shown me these things before that if he was showing me something like that He really wanted to heal a person and I was thinking physical healing.

Well, you know, I didn't like I said care for her I didn't really want to minister to her. didn't want to go and talk with her because every time I talked with her was a confrontation.

was difficult all of this, right? So as you're saying sometimes God will have to serve those who you necessarily don't care much for So at the break I finally yielded to God and I came up to her and I said This is gonna sound weird, but every time I look at you I get this idea of the stomach just in knots being twisted I said are you having stomach issues?

you need prayer? You know she looked at me like I was the stupidest thing on earth and said no not at all and So moment I thought I missed it, but then she paused and she said But you know I've been wrestling with this Situation and wrestling with this situation, but

having to put my mother into a nursing home. And I said, Oh, that makes sense. Cause I saw this twisting, right?

a twisting in the gut. You're wrestling over this thing. And I said, Well, can I pray for you about that?

she said, sure. And so right then and there, I prayed for her. And I closed my eyes, of course, when I prayed with her.

And when I opened my eyes, she's looking at me like slack jaw, like I can't believe this. And she says, those words you prayed were the exact words I prayed last night.

And I said, God allowed that because he wanted you to know he heard you. And he's going to take care of the situation.

And the anointing was there. I felt it. I mean, the peace was there. I felt it. And what God impressed upon me is exactly what you're saying.

When you are a servant, when you are yield to God, and you see Christ in somebody else, you are willing to be Christ to somebody else as well.

Man, things happen. That our relationship from that point on on the rest of the project. Totally different. I saw her as a human being.

I saw her as a person with need, with emotion, just like I have, right? It puts us on a level playing field when we act as a servant.

You're back on mute, Lori.

[@58:16](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3496.68) - **Laurie Nelson**

Yep, I totally agree with you, Rick. And if we're truly talking spiritual here, when someone is hungry spiritually, what does that mean?

They need ministering to, they need words of life. When somebody is naked, they're vulnerable. They need somebody to come and reassure them and strengthen them in the in God.

I mean, if we look at all these different things, you know, as someone's thirsty, you give them drink, you give them living water, right?

So if we're thinking in a way of of the spiritual, there's a lot more to being naked and cold with me, hungry and fed me, being thirsty and gave me drink.

There's so much more to that in the spirit than just physical. because if we look at everything, Jesus taught, it was way more than physical, everything, every ounce of it was spiritual as well.

so that's amazing, Rick, praise God. I love watching God work in real time because when I became a believer, it's truly when God opened my ears to hear that he's here, like he's alive.

He's really working in real time, not just like somebody I meet when I die, maybe. It was so I love seeing God working in real time in people's lives.

And you might not have known Rick just based on your headbudding with that woman that she was even a Christian.

mean, we do jump to these conclusions that, oh, that person's not even worth it. Oh, that person is just a reprobate or that, you know, they're not even worth my time.

We do really jump to these conclusions way too often. But you know, that's the point of these scriptures scriptures, of that's

the point of God God showing us what it was what it's truly like to serve him, you know, to be all things to all men.

mean, this we're learning about it right here right now and like Rick just shared we're seeing it. We see it.

I mean, test these words. If you test these words, I guarantee you God's God's word does never returns void.

If you send it out, it never returns void. You will see it come to life in your in your walk with him and in the lives of other people and it heals relationships and it changes things.

It really does. All right, Julie, I think were you the one still reading? Sure, that would be great.

[@1:00:45](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3645.7) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Many people say to those on his left, depart from me, you who are cursed into the eternal fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.

For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat. I was thirsty and you gave nothing to drink.

I was a stranger and you did not invite me in. I needed clothes and you did not close me.

I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me. They also answered, Lord, what do we see?

You're hungry or thirsty or a stranger or meeting clothes or sick or in prison and did that help you?

He will reply, I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for me, for one of the least of these who did not do for me, then they will go away to internal punishment but the righteous to eternal life.

[@1:01:41](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3701.32) - **Laurie Nelson**

So it just amazes me every time I read in scripture, people arguing with God. What does that even look like?

I was thinking about that one day. was praying about that just to get a little sidetracked here for a second.

love my rabbit holes and God was just telling me, When you see these things when you see these things like someone arguing with God, you can't even fathom How somebody could be so stupid, right?

then I think that and then he checks my spirit and he's like well, hold on How are you going to respond to me?

know, how do you respond to me sometimes? I'm like, okay, and he kind of checks me a little bit But I just imagine what this looks like Like God Almighty God, I know you're sitting on your throne right now I know you're in all your glory But I'm gonna stand here and I'm gonna argue with you and tell you that you're full of it I never saw you here.

I never saw you when you were hungry or I would have given you food. Well That isn't that just like us to to be a respecter of persons now?

Yes, God gets all the glory and honor But what he's saying here is You did not do it to the least So you didn't even do it to me the greatest you did not do it to the

to who you considered not even worthy of it, you passed right on by. And they're totally missing the spiritual aspect of what it means to minister to other people, to serve other people.

And in that way, they truly are serving an evil purpose. You are walking in the way of evil when you are not walking in the way of the spirit.

Yes, Mike.

[@1:03:32](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3812.0) - **Mike**

Yeah, it reminds me of the parable, Jesus told about the Samaritan. passed by, they thought he'd done something wrong, or he was ever of another race.

Yeah, so he was less than them. But the Samaritan who was already despised by the Jews and a lower thing, he was the one that helped, right?

[@1:03:57](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3837.48) - **Laurie Nelson**

That's right. That's a good point. Great. Aaron.

[@1:04:08](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3848.14) - **Erin Ashcraft**

Hi, there we go. So going back to the Matthew 25. One of this missions trip that was based on, there's a, in the United States, was done in Columbus, Ohio.

And it was based off of Matthew 25. And what this. I trying to teach people to catch that. He called it mission 25.

So what you do is we brainstorm and come up with areas in the city where we would go serve.

we went to a dollar store, put together these paper bags and stuff for homeless people. just went and served the homeless people.

But just think about that teaching compared to how our American Christianity is today, where the pinnacle of your faith walk and to be a Christian is to, you know, be on a flat form raised above everybody else.

kind of pop it with the spotlight on you. Some of them even have bodyguards, you know, because they get bombarded by people.

It's almost like a reflection of Hollywood, but just how opposite, you know, our churches, they miss that whole point.

And I just wanted to point that out because that's not like what we see in majority of time. I'm not saying all churches, but what we see the majority of time, especially here in the United States.

[@1:05:34](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3934.5) - **Laurie Nelson**

Excellent point, Erin. Yes. And I think that's why this message is so important for us as believers to really take to heart is what it truly means to be a servant.

Yes, Brian. Or maybe Jamie.

[@1:05:47](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3947.34) - **Brian**

It's good.

[@1:05:48](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3948.52) - **Laurie Nelson**

It's okay.

[@1:05:49](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3949.52) - **Brian**

You know, I think it's in Colossians, but I just remember it's a pretty simple scripture about whatever you do in word or deed, do it for the Lord.

word. I mean, it's just so simple, but yet for us to grasp, sometimes it's so difficult, right?

[@1:06:09](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3969.04) - **Laurie Nelson**

Yep. It really is. I think it's easy for us to, know, we get these scriptures down and we know them, but we fail to walk them out, right?

The, the applying of the scriptures is the most difficult part of being a Christian, is the application to the heart.

That's why they, we hear these songs applying the blood, applying the blood. That's what needs to happen. Mike, do you have your hand raised again?

[@1:06:37](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=3997.14) - **Mike**

Yeah, there's also an elite as I found out in the CCM industry, the, you know, the Christian music. You pay a little extra money and after the country, you go backstage and meet the star.

They kind of pattern it after the, the, the pop and the rock stars. It's nothing, it's nothing like Christianity should be, you know.

You can buy a mug with their picture on it, you know, it's to me, it's kind of crazy.

[@1:07:09](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=4029.28) - **Laurie Nelson**

It is. It really is. mean, think about what pure and undefiled religion before God the Father is this, to visit the orphaned and widows in their affliction and, and we forget this part, to keep ourselves unspotted from the world.

Hating even the garment spotted by the flesh. Yes, Rick.

[@1:07:30](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=4050.78) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, what makes me think about the example that Aaron and that Mike just shared. It's about the love of money and the covetousness and you talk about the love of the world, right?

things that are in the world, things that people pursue, know, it's, it's about what can I get and how can I get what I need, right?

Because that's when you are the one at the table being served, that's what you're really there for is to get, right?

And what he's thinking about. What can I get? And if somebody is going to get it before me, then you better watch out because I'm going to take them out first.

Yeah, they do because that's the mindset of the world. It's all it's selfishness. It's covetousness. It's it's idolatry to self, if you will, right?

And the whole the whole thing about servanthood and what Jesus is presenting flips it 180 100%. Like, no, it's not about what you can get.

It's about what you can give as a servant, you're giving, you're giving your life, you're giving your finances, you're giving your emotions, you're giving ministry.

If somebody wants to be involved in real ministry, because I noticed this word, it was ministry in the King James, but as Julie Reddit, it was help, right?

was ministries about giving your life. What it's not what you can receive from people in ministry. It's about what you give your life, your experiences, your energy.

Out to somebody else that helps them improve their life. History is about helping yourself is about helping somebody else look, Julie, and I just want to say that I've had it's very humbling, but in my career, God's put me in both a very ministering career because I'm a nurse.

So I help a lot of people and it just reminds me every day that even the worst day that I've ever had, hails in comparison to what people suffer with and deal with and struggle with and it keeps me very humbled before God to see the countless ways he has blessed and provided for me.

But that all the more makes me want to be a better nurse in my management of that, but then taking it one step further, God has given me the privilege of being a leader of the majority in my nursing career, and I've always had that attitude of wanting to have be a leader with a servant's heart, because I see so many other leaders who take it as

the power struggle that they're in control and they get to stay and their way goes and it just greets my heart because to me I'm only putting in this position because of the grace of God and he has put me there for a reason and a purpose and it is to serve others not only my staff but the patients that we care for and I could not imagine being a leader that takes it as a power struggle but you know what can I do to be a blessing to my team to my department to make it better and how I can bring Laurie to God because of it.

Laurie I'm going to respond to Julie and then I'm just going to do a little admin thing okay. So Julie you know what I see too and I see that people respond to your leadership at work right you have a great team because they respond to the servant's heart that you offer them and I think that's what makes people adhere to you when they know you're genuine.

When they know that you're coming from a place of real ministry a place of a servants heart people respond to that And so thank you for sharing that and Lance welcome.

glad you joined us here We are getting close to the top of the hour from an administrative point if you need to jump off at time clock We we understand feel free.

do record the video and it gets posted out at my website at www.ricstevenson Music.com again, that's Rick Stevenson music.com You can always watch their video whatever you missed or if you like it so much because it's a great lesson today You can go watch it again and get even more out of it.

So thank you.

[@1:11:35](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=4295.08) - **Erin Ashcraft**

Thank you for letting me interrupt you Laurie I think Aaron had her hand up next Thank you just a quick thing when you were bringing up that scripture about under filed religion and not at the end when you said to What was that part remain unspotted from the world?

Yeah, right So that just made me think of what I shared before like we take how we so easily take the things that God and we mix in with

the worldly appetite. And then I think what Rick added on to it is kind of like the answers on humility.

What is our motivation? Because we can be doing the things I got, right? Are we out there, you know, serving the homeless people?

But then we got our camera up and being like, look at what I'm doing today, you know, and like trying to build this huge platform and stuff like that.

So like how we can so easily, we just have to constantly be checking ourselves. And what is my motivation behind this?

Am I doing it unto the Lord or am I doing it unto myself? So I just wanted to share that quick.

[@1:12:31](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=4351.64) - **Laurie Nelson**

Thank you. Thanks, Erin. Yeah, it's even you'll find if you start volunteering for some of the jobs that everybody else doesn't want to do, you are going to be amazed how God uses that.

And the actual like we had talked about earlier, Rick, how much of a position of power it actually is to be in the servants role.

So let's just get moving right along. There's a little bit more to get through. So yeah, like Rick said, if you need to jump off, that's great.

If you want to stay and listen, that's good too. So I never feel right in a Bible study if I don't have some Old Testament in there too.

Because I have such a heart for the Old Testament, I think it just lays such a foundation for what we see in the New Testament spiritually.

So in Daniel chapter 12, verses 1 through 3, Brian, I think we're back to you. Or Jamie, if you want to read too.

[@1:13:40](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=4420.98) - **Brian**

Sure. Yeah, I think you just know. All right. In Daniel 12, 1 through 3. At that time, shall arise Michael, the greatest prince who has charge of your people.

And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since. there was a nation till that time, but at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book, and many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall wake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt, and those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above, and those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever.

[@1:14:29](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=4469.66) - **Laurie Nelson**

Yep, so we see that there's going to be a time of trouble, and remember if you've been in a place of serventhood, you're already kind of used to doing the dirty jobs, right?

So it's going to be less of a shock for you, maybe not less, but maybe you're going to be able to adapt a little bit more.

So there's going to be a time of trouble, we see a couple things here, and there's going to be a separation like we just read for the sheeps and the goats.

So Daniel right here already said it. There's going to be a separation and there's going to be a time of trouble, okay?

So then let's move on to Revelation chapter 7. Now, this is where things really heat up and we really kind of start to see the full circle come alive here because Revelation has a lot of things that haven't happened yet, right?

So Revelation chapter 7, who wants to start reading that? And are we back to Angie?

[@1:15:33](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=4533.38) - **Zoom user**

Okay, Revelation 7. these things, I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree.

Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the lake. saving God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea saying, do not harm the earth, the sea or the tree till we have sealed the servants of our Lord on their foreheads.

And I heard the number of those who were sealed 144,000 of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed.

[@1:16:31](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=4591.34) - **Laurie Nelson**

Okay, pause right there Angie. So this number bothered me for a while. And when something bothers me, I don't like to rest until I'm not bothered anymore by it.

So I that usually when something in the word of bothers me, I just need to keep digging for a revelation, right?

There's something here. So when I hear the number 144,000 and we hear people like the Jehovah Witnesses telling me,

Hey, everybody else is gonna is gonna just go to sleep. They're gonna take a dirt nap, but there's gonna be this really special group of people and that's what we're shooting for here, right?

But we just read throughout all of scripture that we are not shooting to be the greatest, right? We are not shooting to be rulers and rainers.

We are not shooting for authority and power and glory. We are shooting to serve. That's where we're going. That's what we're going for.

So when I hear this very specific number, it tells me that there's something more to it than just what I'm seeing on paper.

So you can continue, Angie, in verse five.

[@1:17:41](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=4661.85) - **Zoom user**

Of the tribe of Judah, 12,000 were sealed. Of the tribe of Reuben, 12,000 were sealed. Of the tribe of God, 12,000 were sealed.

Of the tribe of Asher, 12,000 were sealed. Of the tribe of Judah, Naftali, 12,000 were sealed of the tribe of Manasseh, 12,000 were sealed of the tribe of Simeon, 12,000 were sealed of the tribe of Levi, 12,000 were sealed of the tribe of Isacar, 12,000 were sealed of the tribe of Zebulun, 12,000 were sealed of the tribe of Joseph, 12,000 were sealed of the tribe of Benjamin, 12,000 were sealed.

[@1:18:32](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=4712.94) - **Laurie Nelson**

Okay, pause right there Angie. So hold on. This sounds an awful lot like the 12 Tribes of Israel. And I recall reading in Luke chapter 22 that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on

separation between the tribes of Israel and then everybody else, right? So I don't want to get too crazy with this because this can get pretty deep.

But it sounds to me like that 144,000 are of the 12 tribes of Israel, right? But that can't be all.

Otherwise, there wouldn't scripture denies it right here in the next verse. if we go into verse nine, Angie, are going to find that out.

[@1:19:42](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=4782.54) - **Zoom user**

Okay, verse nine. After these things, I looked and behold a great multitude, which can, which no one could, that's too dark in you, okay, which no one could number of all nations.

tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out in a loud voice, saying, belongs to our God, who sits on the throne and to the Lamb.

All the angels stood around the throne, and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne, and worship God, saying, Amen, blessing in glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor and power in might, be to our God forever and ever, Amen.

[@1:20:42](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=4842.12) - **Laurie Nelson**

Continue? Yes.

[@1:20:44](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=4844.18) - **Zoom user**

Then one of the rulers, then one of the elders answered, saying to me, who are this arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?

[@1:20:53](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=4853.6) - **Laurie Nelson**

Okay, you can pause right there, Angie. So we're seeing here that there is a whole nother, set up people that that just entered the picture.

All right, and there's a multitude of them and no man can number them, right? So that tells me right there that there's way more than this 144,000 going to be there.

Okay. And these who are robed in white, remember, we kept ourselves unspotted from the world. Remember, we were serving this whole time.

This was our peer and undefiled religion. And we serve God at his throne. We serve him. We're continuing on as servants, even next to the throne.

And so we're going to see how amazing this is as Angie reads on in verse 14.

[@1:21:42](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=4902.98) - **Zoom user**

And I said to him, Sir, you know, so he said to me, these are the ones who come out of the great tribulation and wash their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

they are before the throne of God. and serve him day and night in his temple. And he who sits in the throne will dwell among them.

They shall neither hunger any more nor thirst any more. The sun shall not strike them nor any heat. For the lamp who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and leave them to living foundations of waters, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." I don't know about you guys, but this is the place I want to be in.

[@1:22:34](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=4954.88) - **Laurie Nelson**

This is the status symbol I want in heaven to serve the living God, to be at his throne serving him.

Because when we're in that position, our tears are being wiped, we're being fed, we're being completely taken care of.

How does that make sense? We just learned that a servant is the one who serves, but now we're hearing

That because God also has this servant's heart. The Lord also has a servant's heart. He proved it when he was here as Jesus and he turns around and he then serves us.

Okay, that makes my mind want to explode. That we can be at the throne of God and yet our tears are being wiped.

We are being fed. We are being shepherded. We are being clothed from the heat. How is this possible? Well, because earlier we read that when we did it to the least of these are brethren, we did it to the Lord.

Yes, Rick.

[@1:23:42](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=5022.6) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

So what's cool is like it's serving both ways because, you know, the verse 15 and they serve him. Him, God, they serve him day and night and yet God is serving us in the same time.

So it's real servanthood goes both ways, right? It's flow, heaven's flow. And just to bring clarification on the numbers because you know, I'm a numbers guy, right?

[@1:24:03](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=5043.68) - **Laurie Nelson**

Yes.

[@1:24:04](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=5044.26) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Thank you And you know we are all once we come once we come to God We are all in spiritual Israel So we fall in these spiritual tribes of Israel So 12 represents government or rulership See when he said if you're the servant you'll judge Tribes you in other words, you'll take the leadership as a servant.

I'm turning this thing whole all around He said that's a servant. You're going to rule and reign, right? He's putting us in charge of That's what that's why he's taking 12,000 in in charges of these mass Arrays, that's that's what it's representing That is awesome Mike, do you have your hand raised up?

[@1:24:54](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=5094.04) - **Mike**

Yeah, I do I believe there's a verse that eludes to the fact that all the Blessings and pleasures that God will give the sun for what he has done.

[@1:25:04](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=5104.82) - **Laurie Nelson**

The sun will also share with us Yeah Great edition I Just want to also point out in in verse 14 when it says These are they which came out of great tribulation and Remember earlier in Daniel.

read that there shall be a time of trouble Such as never known nation has ever seen before But they shall be delivered all those who are found written in the book and Then we see these are they which came out of that great time of trouble These are the ones who came out of it, but washed their robes in the the blood of the land What does that mean?

How do we keep our robes unspotted from the world unless we continue to wash them? We continue to wash them in the blood of the land.

That's the only way That's the only way that I've never I don't think I've ever were woken up and got not a bed without a spot on my robe.

And I can continually need to wash my robe in the blood of the lamb, because these times are troublesome.

They really are. In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart. I have overcome the world. That's what Christ is saying.

And so back to Matthew 2311, Aaron, do you want to just read our last scripture for the day?

[@1:26:38](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=5198.62) - **Erin Ashcraft**

Yes. And before I read it, think Cindy might have had a question.

[@1:26:41](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=5201.98) - **Laurie Nelson**

Her hand popped back up.

[@1:26:44](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=5204.62) - **Erin Ashcraft**

So I'm sorry, Cindy.

[@1:26:46](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=5206.9) - **Sindy**

didn't see your hand up. It's okay. I had to step away when we were starting to talk about Revelation seven.

And the part that I did hear was that you said, Well, and bothered by the numbers that are here because it's like we're taught there is no competition And that's basically the last that I heard.

[@1:27:09](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=5229.92) - **Laurie Nelson**

Could you like give a summary of Sure, thanks for thank you for asking for that, Cindy. Um, yes, so we're talking about 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel and how that's how we get the the number 144,000 And that never sat right with me because they're just It never sat right with me to put a number on who is going to be in heaven How many people are going to be in heaven that it doesn't add up with anything else I've ever read in scripture and so if we if we continue reading down we we learn that There's another there's a whole multitude that no man can number and they're they're robed They're the ones who came out of great tribulation.

They wash their robe in the blood of the lamb They serve him at his throne day and night 8 and then we look and see that God has turned around and he has started serving them.

They hunger no more. thirst no more. Their tears are being wiped. So there's this symbiotic servant hood going on and even in heaven at the throne of God.

And Rick also had some additions to add about what those numbers mean. Rick, do you want to jump in?

[@1:28:26](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=5306.26) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, so here's a kind of a humorous way to remember that it's gross to think that 144,000 would only be in heaven, because 144 is a gross.

[@1:28:36](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=5316.7) - **Laurie Nelson**

times 12 is called the gross.

[@1:28:38](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=5318.84) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

One thing about it that way, if people say 144,000 are going to be in heaven and they use that scripture to say that's gross.

Because as Lori pointed out, there's multitudes that are talked about in heaven. so what the reason Jesus is using the example of the gross, the 12 times 12, 12

Represents rulership government. He's saying that as a servant you will govern right because we've already read that What you'll govern the tribes of Israel and we become the spiritual tribes of Israel where spiritual Israel and we believe in Jesus When we follow him so we fall in the line of being governed by servants, right?

[@1:29:20](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=5360.5) - **Sindy**

Yes Does that answer your question Cindy Yes, so it's more like a sort of metaphorical number sort of I Did have another question in general, but I'm not really sure how to ask it so basically, I tell people I was not interested in Christianity or God and I never had an interest in the Bible and then in 2021 I Got that interest and then I completely changed all

all perspectives, you stereotypes I made had about the Bible. And I started to read it as a book that I need to try to understand little by little, line by line.

And when I go to a lot of groups, I tell people I'm new to Christianity. And sometimes that's misinterpreted.

Because people think, oh, she's dumb, she doesn't know anything. And I think when we learn about the Bible, this like spirit of humility or servitude, I think is very much misinterpreted.

And in general, I still feel very lost. And lost in the sense that one single verse can mean so many things.

And so I feel like we're not, everybody is, I mean, especially we're, we're, in a country that has money, people don't think that humility or humbleness is something positive.

That's seen as a sign of weakness. And so all of this is hard to understand because first like there are so many verses that we covered.

And I think the reason why I mentioned that I'm new and I tell people that I'm new is because I know that there is so much to learn.

And I feel like in a way, it's almost like I didn't have like a Christian foundation. And now I'm starting to get it.

Well, this is still very difficult to understand. It's almost like I'm 36, but I feel like I'm a teenager or I'm a pre-teen again.

And I think if I share this in other places, people are going to think, oh, well, she's naive or she's underdeveloped.

And I mean, maybe a person could say that. Like if you're learning how to look at life from the gods.

perspective, that's a very positive thing to say, I think. But it's confusing because it's like like the way that the world is set up.

I mean, even in a family, you know, for example, if you have like a father who instead of, for example, being respectful of the people, so to speak underneath him, he takes an arrogant attitude.

Right there and then you already have hostility towards an authority figure. And then you go to work and people are not Christian.

They take their power as something to shove in other people's faces. I taught in an English school where we were told that the students needed to speak more than the teacher.

And that was because it was a language school. And because they thought student participation was the greatest. But at the same time, it's like, that's not how things are done like in meetings and in general, and I think it's very difficult because it's almost like same to like a parent, you have to let your child speak a lot.

But it's like, even if your child speaks a lot or you really get to understand your child enough, you know, obviously that the person who knows more is the parent.

So all of this is confusing because you can take like little or microscopic examples. And then you look at like, for example, politics, because this is like foundations for politics.

You see like, you know, like maybe who's going to be the next president, somebody who's racist, somebody who's rich, somebody who doesn't respect their wife and isn't a candle.

And then it's like, you see so many things that are wrong and it's kind of like, in a way, it feels like,

like this is um I want to say obsolete but it it almost sounds like this is very idealistic and it's not practical so in a way I wish like I could understand like what is the proper thing to do for example when you have an arrogant father or you have people that are just comfortable in their in their ignorance or you have um like supervisors at work who are not diligent or are neglectful to their customers like I just feel like in a way I wish I understood like what a single verse really means and I think all these verses are helpful but it's just sometimes I feel like um too many verses and I don't really understand what one means like from the big picture so I hope you understand what I what I mean I'm not trying to criticize I'm just mentioning that for me I'm new to all of this and

I just feel like I need a lot of direction and to really understand this, like, for example, the part that says that we shouldn't be the fix.

Like, that is like the strongest thing because I feel like a lot of times when people have money, they don't feel they need God.

It's that simple. Yeah. because we like, even at a church, I've gone to churches where people are still mean to each other.

Yeah. So you feel very hopeless because it's like, wow, we're talking about God, but you still see people being mean to each other.

[@1:35:35](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=5735.26) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

So I hear where you're. I hear. I guess if that's about it, because it's been a little late. No, I'm Laurie.

I may take this, I appreciate you, Cindy. am so appreciative that you are being vulnerable, that you're opening up.

And that is an awesome place that we all have to start from. And it's not that you're new because we all we call ourselves new.

We're all on the same journey of learning and growing and by your being vulnerable and sharing That's how we all grow at the same time Unfortunately, what the scripture says is that narrow is the way that leads to life and few there be that find it So when we look out to the world and we look out to even our own families at times who may not know God And we look out to employers who may not know God We look out to strangers and others in church who claim that they know God, but necessarily don't we see a lot of the world working And that that is unfortunate, but the place and the most important thing God is Trying to get into us is about relationship with him, right?

And so if it's all about relationship just like as you and I send you build a relationship How do we get to know each other we share our experiences?

We share our words? share, you know what we're going through and we learn right? It doesn't mean it's perfect, but it starts a conversation.

I think in terms of building a building If you were to look at a skyscraper, that building doesn't happen overnight, it has to start with a foundation.

And so as a Christian, even when I came into the word, a lot of stuff was confusing, and I had a heart like you, I want to know, I want to know, I want to figure this out, what is important, right?

And I think that's what I sense from you is you have a genuine heart to want to understand. And to do that, you have to start with foundation principles.

What are some basic things that we see routinely over and over and over in scripture? Because when we see them here, they're in this place and it starts see it many times, that builds a foundation.

So when as an example, when we read about baptism, we read many examples, we see that Jesus stretched it, stressed it, we see examples, even in Old Testament, how it talks about symbology of baptism, we see how Jesus lived it, see how he taught it, we see people after that who got baptized.

as we can see that the principle of baptism is a foundation. So I use the principle principles as what you need to start looking for and principles are things that become unmovable, unshakable.

It's like putting that foundational rivet in the ground or post in the ground that helps build the framework of the building around it.

Once you have foundation, some principles, what is God looking for from us? Baptism is one of them, repentance is another one that we see as we repent and allow God to start changing our lives.

Then he starts building that building and it might look, that building for your life is gonna look different than it does for mine.

Mine might be a three-story skyscraper, yours might be a 10-story skyscraper, mine might be a single-family home, yours might be a two-family home or a mansion.

It's all gonna look different, but there are principles, foundations that will not be different. And if we focus on those principles, those foundations, then we can start making sense of it.

As I mentioned earlier, scripture is like a layer cake. Like you're saying, you read the scripture and you can get so much out of it, because it can mean so many different things, right?

But it all has to be one God is not the author of confusion. First Corinthians 14 verse 33, that's part of the verse.

God is not the author of confusion. That is one principle I put in the ground for my life. Because I see that happening in the Old Testament, when God told Moses to build the tabernacle, he didn't just say, go build it.

He gave specifics, that means he was not confusing about it. When God told Noah, build an arch, he didn't just say, go build it.

gave specifics, do it this way, do it that way. He was, again, trying not to be confusing. So if God's not the author confusion, that is a principle I can put in my life.

That if I find that I'm being confused by something, then I'm not understanding God well enough yet. that's okay, because God knows

I'm human being and he'll work with me and he will start to show me and when I start to see pattern something that is revealing what he's trying to show me that establishes the principle.

Now I got the principle I can put another foundational stone and I can build off of that. Does that help Cindy?

[@1:40:20](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=6020.92) - **Sindy**

Yes I'm understanding.

[@1:40:23](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=6023.2) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Good and so from that you know we then when we have built enough principle and understanding of this we line everything of our life up to this and we first we don't judge other people to this we first have to judge ourselves to this when we realize that we are living this then we can start when people coming to us whether our employer with our family member a neighbor down the street when they proclaim to be a Christian when they proclaim to do these things if they're bearing fruit that lines up to this we can go in our hearts and go yep

Okay, I see it. I get it. But if we're not seeing the fruit, we can go, okay, I'm going to be cautious of what they say because it's not lining up here.

I'm not going to like push them away because maybe they need more of this. Right. And so I'm not going to push them away.

I'm going to help them understand this better. But first, I have to. It's about me and my relationship with God first.

Definitely in the right place. Definitely. We are, I know people are jumping off and I'm sorry that it's going little bit longer than usual.

We are having a get together tonight in Cottage Grove. If you're in the area and would like to come, we're going to have a worship service and another time of prayer for everyone.

And I know you're going to wrap up with the last verse that we had started with Laurie about being a servant.

Thank you so much for this lesson today. I appreciate it. It has been a wealth of information. love you and we appreciate you for sharing.

Thank you. I would like to take a quick time to pray for anybody if they have a prayer. request before we wrap up, okay?

Not seeing any requests or not hearing anything. Can we just close with a word of prayer or maybe one last word of encouragement from Laurie?

[@1:42:21](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=6141.5) - **Laurie Nelson**

Yeah, guys. I just want to thank everybody for being so patient with me and sharing this. This is very much something that's been on my heart.

And I mean, it truly just let it wash over you. Let it come to life in your heart. And I just want to leave you with a little bit of a challenge to take the scripture, he that is greatest among you, shall be your servant and challenge your own heart.

Where have I not? Where have I been failing in this? Where have I been failing with this? Because Too often we go.

Oh, it's them. It's they that do that and that it's not me. That does that So I just I first I want to challenge you to find some find that place where you're failing at that and then I want you to Apply these scriptures to that part of your life and it can be the smallest thing It can be the smallest thing because I don't I don't want us to turn it outward and say that it's everybody else That does it because I know I know in my own life I've been seeing it too, and that's Heat God's been walking me through it.

So I just want to thank you guys for being so patient with me. I Know that I Time is not my strong suit and to stay in the bounds of Maybe one day I'll appreciate you heaven for that reason there isn't gonna be any more time but Thank you guys Cindy God bless you.

I know that the Lord is going to just pour into your life and help you with understanding and We truly do

all start out as drinking the sincere milk of the word. We all start out as babies. You're not dumb at all.

We all just are growing in the Lord. And we are continuing to. And I remember when I started reading the scriptures, the more I learned the dumber I felt because it was just this wealth of knowledge.

And Jesus came to shake things up so a lot of what you see in this world will not line up with what you see Jesus teaching because he really shook it up.

And but as long as you stand firm on these principles, you're going to stand firm at that last day too.

Lord, I think. Sorry, go ahead.

[@1:44:40](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=6280.98) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Let you pray. Sometimes I feel like you're drinking from a fire hose and that's okay. But you know, water's still getting in.

Okay, so keep drinking. Keep coming. Go ahead, Lori.

[@1:44:52](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=6292.12) - **Laurie Nelson**

Yep. Lord, I thank you for the gathering of everybody here today. Lord, I thank you for this fortified body of.

Christ. All of us are different members and we're all trying to serve you and your kingdom. Lord, I pray that you would help us to discern those areas in our hearts where we could become more servant-like.

I pray that you would help us lead with a servant's heart, Lord. And I pray, Lord, that you would help us to not act like door mats and not get that confused with what you're telling us a servant's heart means.

But I pray that you would help us to see those little areas that we can hold the door, where we can feed you when you're hungry, where we can clothe you when you're naked, and that we can do that spiritually as well.

I thank you for all my brothers and sisters that are gathered here today. I pray that you would bless them.

I pray that whatever secret prayers that they are holding in their hearts that maybe they can't say out loud, I pray that you would meet their needs, Lord, in Jesus' name.

Amen.

[@1:45:56](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=6356.24) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Thank you everyone for coming. We love you. We appreciate you and we I hope to see you in a couple of weeks, okay?

God bless you.

[@1:46:03](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=6363.36) - **Mike**

God bless.

[@1:46:04](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=6364.76) - **Sindy**

Thank you.

[@1:46:05](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=6365.82) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Thank you, Lori. Thank you, Lori. Thank you. Appreciate your sharing today.

[@1:46:09](https://fathom.video/share/U2SjaEExR_grtX3rmQriVu7Dmx--c8az?timestamp=6369.62) - **Laurie Nelson**

you. Yes, thank you. Thank you. Thank you.