

What would make serving the Lord undesirable?

Reciprocity

It can be transactional
(duty based)

It can be devotional and transformational
(desire based – Love based)

Remember what you chose

Remember why you chose it

Every choice causes a taking hold of

Every choice causes a letting go of

Joshua 24:12-13

I sent the hornet ahead of you, which drove them out before you—also the two Amorite kings. You did not do it with your own sword and bow. ¹³ So I gave you a land on which you did not toil and cities you did not build; and you live in them and eat from vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant.’

He is the God

Who blessed you

Who did this with you

Who did this for you

Choose this day who you will serve

Not

Choose this day who will serve you

Three options:

The gods of your ancestors

The gods of your neighbors

The God of gods, The God of all Creation

Romans 6:15-23

What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶ Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷ But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance. ¹⁸ You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

Romans 6:15-23

¹⁹ I am using an example from everyday life because of your human limitations. Just as you used to offer yourselves as slaves to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness. ²⁰ When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. ²¹ What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! ²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Increasing narcissism in the American
causes the culture to be self-absorbed
but not self-aware

The Culture of Narcissism, Christopher Lasch

We may highly value our gods,
spending inordinate amounts of
Money, Time and Energy on them

They are:

Materialism, Status, Leisure via Consumerism
(travel, hobbies, recreation, sports, online gaming, porn,
gluttony)

We will serve the Lord and obey Him

He rescued us

He protected us

He Sustains us

Jesus' hard won victory was not to secure a life of ease
but a life of devoted service.

How is your devotion to God's dedication being
expressed through your service?