

The Sermon: A Cup of Cold Water

In 2 Kings 4:8-17, we can see a wonderful story of Elisha. A wealthy woman and her husband went to considerable trouble and expense, building a spare room for Elisha to rest on his journeys. He learned that she was childless. The prophet said she would bear a child. God rewarded her for remarkable welcoming.

Matthew 10:41 says, “He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet’s reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man’s reward.” A prophet proclaims a divine message. A prophet is someone to whom God reveals the truth, and through whom God speaks. A righteous man acts on a divine message. A prophet is one who speaks. A righteous man is one who acts in the name of God. I hope you all live as a righteous prophet. You share God’s love with people, and live the way of love as Jesus lived. When you love to welcome a prophet or a righteous person, you shall receive a reward for welcoming them. I think you want to obtain maximum rewards. In

Matthew 10:42, Jesus said, “and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

When you welcome a little one in Jesus, you will be rewarded the most. Have you ever thought giving a glass of water to one of our church family can be rewarded? It is the small thing that we can do for someone. It does not matter how great or how small the act of service. Jesus says even the simple act of a cup of cold water is a great ministry. Who are the little ones? In this verse, they are disciples. In other words, the little ones are Christians around you. Can you see the little ones in the church family? How can you serve them? Have you ever thought about wearing masks as serving the little ones and the act of loving and serving our church family?

When I have prepared to reopen the church building, what is the word I have heard the most frequently? a MASK. In the clergy

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When I have prepared to reopen the church building, what is the word I have heard the most frequently? a MASK. In the clergy

meeting, pastors discussed about a mask. Where can the church buy masks? How can the church help members to wear a mask?

Today, medical doctors and professionals explain that wearing masks is an attempt to protect ourselves and protect others. But people hesitate to wear a protective mask.

We know wearing masks is the simple act of loving and serving others like giving a cup of cold water during the coronavirus pandemic.

There are a few reasons to hesitate to wear masks. People are hesitant to wear masks because of American independence and resistance to authority. To some people, masks signaled disease, as if the wearer had something to hide. Moreover, people do not want to wear masks because people are used to using their faces to express emotions and communicate. In many ways, our culture makes us hesitate to wear masks.

However, it doesn't matter if we follow our culture standard. But it does matter that we love and protect the little ones around us, family, friends. Every Christian has a responsibility to serve, both each other and those outside the church.

Listen again from Matthew 10:42, "whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward." Every act of service done as if you were doing it for Jesus is great. Would you give the little ones a cup of cold water? Who are the little ones around you? What can you do for them in the name of Jesus? Today Jesus invites us to do a small act of loving and serving one of the little ones in our church and our community.

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