

## **Born to Serve**

*“For though I was free from all men, I brought myself under bondage to all, that I might gain the more.”*

(1 Cor. 9:19)

Disciples are ‘in’ the world but not ‘of’ the world (John 15:19). However, disciples have a responsibility ‘to’ the world. It is seen in the words of Paul: to ‘gain them’ to Jesus. Hence, disciples are to walk by faith so as to be light and salt influence upon their neighbors. (cf. 2 Cor. 5:7; Matt. 5:13-16). A converted spouse has the responsibility to save an unconverted spouse (1 Cor. 7:16).

This simply points to our reason for existence. As the song lyrics read, we were ‘born to serve the Lord’. When Jesus stated that it is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35), our salvation was on His mind. Jesus gave Himself for others (John 3:16). Paul recognized others’ need to be saved. “I am become all things to all men, that I may by all means save some” (1 Cor. 9:22). He pleaded with others to follow his example (1 Cor. 4:16). Disciples are to serve those lost in sin. This summed up the life of David as king (cf. Acts 13:36).

The gospel is God’s power to save (Rom. 1:16). It is the talent given as a stewardship to each Christian, serving as the standard by which their faithfulness will be judged (Matt. 25:14-30). rdb