

LESSON 15: Not quite the end Esther 8:1-8

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Read Ephesians 6:5-9. How are workers (bondservants) to work for their employers?

How are they not to work?

Whose will should they be doing?

Should we work in this way for earthly rewards?

How should employers (masters) treat their workers (servants)?

(There is much more to this passage on work. See this DDT from August 22, 2014.)

Read Romans 12:4-8. How are we, as Christians, to interact?

Does each person have the same abilities or gifts?

Why does that lead to Christians' interacting the way they do?

Read 1 Corinthians 12:14-26. According to Paul, is there any member or part of the body of Christ that is "better" or more necessary than another?

How does Paul make this point?

Look at verse 26. Consider your toes. If you injure your toe, what effect will this have on the rest of your body as you go about daily tasks?

What does this tell you about the "less honorable" members of the body of Christ and our need for them?

As you spend time with God today, ask Him to help you to see, at least in part, the gifts that He has given you for the building up of the body of Christ. Remember, there is no part that is not important. From serving coffee to emptying trash cans to greeting people as they come in the door to the hug or smile you give to a brother or sister, all of those things are what bring the body closer together. Think about a time when a brother or sister encouraged you without knowing it and thank God for that person. Ask God to help you to be thankful for the

opportunities you have to serve; instead of longing for a different role than the one that God has you in at this time. Remember that all of our work is to be for the Lord, and not for man, and work with all your heart to bring glory to your Father in whatever way you are able.