

Abilities God Can Use

Text: Hebrews 12:28-29

Intro: -This is one of the many places in God's Word where ^{we} are admonished to serve God.

-We all have different abilities which can be used in the service of God, however, I want to consider in this message some abilities God wants above all others.

I. AVAILABILITY - Do We give Ourselves to God?

A. -By means of Surrender - Isa. 6:8

"Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me."

1. Do we say "Here am I send Me", or "Here am I send somebody else?"

B. -By means of Sacrifice - Rom. 12:1

"I beseech you therefore, brethen, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

1. Do we really desire, with God's help, to let Christ be Lord of all, or do we want it all?

C. -By means of Readiness - Rom. 1:15

"So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also."

1. Are we ready to do what God wants us to do, or do we always have an excuse why we can't?

II. DEPENDABILITY - Can God Depend on Our Faithfulness?

A. In Our Word - Ecc. 5:4-5

"When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed."

"Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay."

1. Do we make promises to God in an Emotional moment only to forget them? *• Revival meetings •* *not just sometimes*

B. In Our Work -

v 18 - "all seasons"
v 19 - "Serving the Lord"
 -Acts 20:18-19 - read - *Paul's Testimony - to church of Ephesus -*
 -I Cor. 4:2 - "Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful."

1. Do we accept the responsibility that comes with Church Membership or a position of Leadership?

C. In our Witness - Acts 20:20-21, 27 (read)

1. Are we faithful to the word, teaching it, preaching it as it is without compromise?

III. STICKABILITY - Do We Keep On Going?

A. In Our Service - I Cor. 15:58

"Therefore, my beloved brethen, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

1. Do we let setbacks or problems cause us to give up?

B. In Our Suffering - I Peter 4:12-13 & 16 - Read.

1. -When we meet the ridicule of some around us Saint or sinner, do we throw up our hands, ruffle our feathers and quit?

-Or do we keep on going? *→ Looking unto Jesus →*

C. In Straightforward Thinking - Phil. 3:13

"Brethen, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,"

1. Do we look forward to what God can do thru us, or let someone convince us that God is thru with us? - e.g., ODBC.

IV. USEABILITY - Are We An Instrument in God's Hands?

A. Our Lips should be His -

-II Tim. 2:15 - "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

-Heb. 5:12-14 - Read

1. Have we prepared ourselves so we can stand for, and stand on God's Word. - *we should grow in God's word from the milk to the strong meat*

B. Our Life should be His:

*Most Christians -
Babies - Milky*

-Rom. 12:2 - "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Talk must match walk

-I Cor. 9:27 - "But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." - *no use because didn't keep my body under control*

1. Is our life such that when we speak God's Word, people will listen?

C. Our legacy should be His. - Heb. 11:15-16

"And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned."

"But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city."

-Are we mindful of this country we are in now the world or are we desirous of a better country? - that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

1. Will we, if called from this walk of life, as strangers and pilgrims on this earth, be remembered as one who strived to please God?

Conclusion: Christian when it comes to God:

-What is your **Availability**?

-Do you give yourselves to God? or To the world? or try to give to both.

-Remember you can not serve God and mammon

-Double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

- Christian when it comes to God:
- What is your Dependability?
- Can God Depend on your Faithfulness?
- Preach it!

- Christian when it comes to God:
- What is your Stickability?
- Do you keep on going?
- Read Gal. 6:9
- Do you grow weary and faint, quit, throw in the towel?

- Christian when it comes to God:
- What is your Useability?
- Are you an instrument in God's Hand or the devil's

-Abilities God Can use:

- *Availability
- *Dependability
- *Stickability
- *Useability

Plan -

Pray -