**SELFISHNESS**

**PHILLIPPIANS 2:21**

**INTRODUCTION**

**For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's.**

Bible says in the last time, many will be lovers of self

**2 Timothy 3:2, “For men shall be lovers of their own selves,”**

Selfishness means stinginess resulting from a concern for your own welfare and a disregard of others.

I love this dictionary meaning about selfishness. Another word is the self centered attitude without thinking about others(MINE MINE MINE). And we will look at forms of selfishness as outlined in the Bible. Selfishness found its root in lack of contentment with what we have to the extent of depriving others of their rights.

People with selfish attitude always think about what others can do for them and not what they can do for others. Do you know what our trouble is? Self! Somebody offended you. Somebody didn't treat you right. Somebody mistreated you. You didn't get what you were supposed to get.

Different forms of Selfishness that are found

**1. Hoarding Foodstuff and Neglect of the Needy**

Proverbs 11:26 Proverbs 24:11

...To whom much is given, much is required..."

Example in the Bible when Nabal refuses to give David food. God has blessed Nabal, but out selfishness refused to help those in need of food.

Remember, wherever you are, and everything you are is given to you by God. God has blessed you so that you can bless others

**2. Greedy for Gains and Positions**

**Mark 10:35-37  And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, come unto him, saying, Master, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall desire. And he said unto them, What would ye that I should do for you? They said unto him, Grant unto us that we may sit, one on thy right hand, and the other on thy left hand, in thy glory.**

**Esther 6:6, “So Haman came in. And the king said unto him, What shall be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour? Now Haman** thought in his heart, To whom would the king delight to do honour more than to myself?

Christian, we need to be careful of selfishness. It will lead to destruction. We should be Sunday school teacher, we should be the assistant pastor, we should be teaching women in the church, that is how many people have ruined the church of God and their reputation.

Another example is when James and John seek the best places. Remember, they are two out of two disciples of Jesus Christ.

Many have ruined other people’s lives because of selfishness, and many have destroyed homes because of selfishness.

ILL: WOMEN TALKING IN THE CAR

**Proverbs 1:19**  So *are* the ways of every one that is greedy of gain; *which* taketh away the life of the owners thereof.

**3. Total Disregard of the Rights of others**

Ezekiel 34:18, Hosea 10:1 Habakkuk 2:6 Zechariah 7:6

It is not about you or your own, it is also good to think about others.

Husbands, you need to let go of selfishness in your home, and teach your children to care for others.

Moses- When he had the opportunity for his name to be exalted but he refused to accept it.

**Deuteronomy 9:13-14  Furthermore the LORD spake unto me, saying, I have seen this people, and, behold, it *is* a stiffnecked people: Let me alone, that I may destroy them, and blot out their name from under heaven: and I will make of thee a nation mightier and greater than they.**

Verse26-27

4. **Heartless Indifference toward Sinners**

One of the reasons why we do not share the Gospel to others is because of selfishness attitude.

I don't know who the person is morning in this room who is the most miserable wretch here, but whoever he is, he lives for himself. I don't know who it is tonight who is the most unhappy creature in this room, but whoever it is has never lost himself in service for somebody else.

I want you to notice the first three of our Lord's sayings on the cross. In the first place He said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." Jesus died loving others and forgiving them. He died loving others. Not thinking about the pain of sin, the crown of torns on his head, and the bruises, but he died caring and loving others. SELFLESS SACRIFICE

1 Corinthians 10:33

Ill- The priest and levite carelessly pass by the wounded man.

1 John 3:17

The greatest thing to do for others is to tell them about amazing grace how sweet the sound.

Ill- A guy who was rescued then left others in the dig.

**CONCLUSION**

One of the greatest chapters in the Bible that talks about love is 1 Corinthians 13:5. It says love thinks not of himself.

When last did you pray for others?

When last did you call others?

When last did you visit other person?

When last did you give to others?

When last did you go for others?

**OTHERS**

**Dear Delegates of the Salvation Army Convention:**

**OTHERS!**

**Signed, General Booth.**

**Lord, let me live from day to day**

**In such a self-forgetful way**

**That even when I kneel to pray,**

**My prayer shall be for others.**

**Others, Lord, yes, others;**

**Let this my motto be.**

**Help me to live for others**

**That I may live like Thee**

Isaiah 56:11, “Yea, *they are* greedy dogs *which* can never have enough, and they *are* shepherds *that* cannot understand: they all look to their own way, every one for his gain, from his quarter.