



An initiative of WISCONSIN FAMILY COUNCIL

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

How May I Serve You?

Dear Pastor {LastName},

Clark Howard is a consumer expert with a popular radio show. Folks who call in will typically hear him answer the call with a question along these lines: “How may I serve you?” Doesn’t that communicate a wonderfully gracious attitude?

In an infinitely more amazing act of humble grace, the Creator and Sustainer of the universe, on the night of His betrayal, took a servant’s towel and washed the feet of His disciples (John 13).

Back in March our Lieutenant Governor hosted a teleconference for pastors and leaders of faith-based ministries relative to the “shut down” of the state in response to COVID-19. When the time came for fielding questions, lots of questions came to the Lt. Governor asking what the state could or would do for ministries adversely impacted by the Governor’s orders. If any of the pastors or leaders on that call asked the question to the Lt. Governor, “How may we serve you?” it was definitely the exception.

Granted, since the state was mandating things that potentially hurt ministries, there was a measure of legitimacy to the questions. Still, it was hard to escape the sense that many were looking to the state for help; and few, if any, at least on that first call, were looking for ways to serve those in leadership in our state.

Jesus set the example for us when He told the apostles that they should serve others as He had served them (John 13:15). Are we looking to serve or be served?

If you make a pastoral visit to a legislator at the Capitol, when you walk into his or her office, the typical first question following their greeting will be some form of, “What can I do for you?” Elected officials know that people who visit them in their office are usually there to ask for something.

Here is a wonderful opportunity to be a Kingdom ambassador—we aren’t there to ask for something. We are there to serve. We offer words of thanks, words of encouragement, and prayer. If we are bold enough, we might even ask if there are ways churches might come along-side the work of government to be a blessing and help to people in need in our communities.

Wouldn’t it be amazing if churches and faith-based ministries in our state developed a reputation in the legislature for being problem-solvers? Might we find new and unexpected open doors for gospel ministry in our communities? Might we find opportunities for gospel ministry to lawmakers and other elected officials?

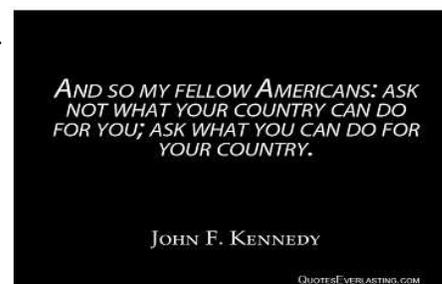
On January 20, 1961, John F. Kennedy gave his inaugural speech, in which he famously said, “Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country.” As the culture continues to move toward dependency on the government for everything, may our churches become known not for dependence, but for our attitude of service.

Maybe we need a revival in our churches of the attitude revealed by the question: “How may I serve you?” With that said, please know we really do want to serve you! Please let us know how we can best do that.

In Christ,

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PS: We will not be sending a Church Ambassador Network email out next Tuesday since that is Thanksgiving week. May the Lord grant you a blessed Thanksgiving holiday as with family and friends you rejoice in God’s blessings and provisions. Please know that we at WFC are especially grateful for you and your faithful ministry! It is our honor to serve you.