

# Relationship with God

## PSALM 50:7-15

"Hear, O my people, and I will speak, O Israel, I will testify against you. I am God, your God. **8** Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt offerings are continually before me. **9** I will not accept a bull from your house, or goats from your folds. **10** For every wild animal of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills. **11** I know all the birds of the air, and all that moves in the field is mine. **12** "If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and all that is in it is mine. **13** Do I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats? **14** Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High. **15** Call on me in the day of trouble; **I will deliver you**, and you shall glorify me."

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## LUKE 12:35-38

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; **36** be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. **37** Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and **he will come and serve them**. **38** If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves."

## ACTS 17:22-25

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. **23** For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. **24** The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, **25** nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since **he himself gives to all mortals** life and breath and all things.



List characteristics of God in these passages ■

What is God's complaint? (Psalm 50)

What is God's plan for bringing glory to himself? (Psalm 50)

What does each passage have in common?  
What surprising picture of God emerges?

# Job description vs. Doctor's prescription

## MINISTRY IS LIKE THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM ❑

IT IS NOT SOMETHING WE DO FOR GOD, BUT SOMETHING GOD DOES FOR US.

	MINISTRY AS A JOB	MINISTRY AS A DOCTOR'S PRESCRIPTION
GOAL	<p><b>Goal ❑ receiving</b> [ ] <b>in the form of ❑</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Approval or respect from others (or God)</li> <li>▶ Paying down a debt of gratitude toward God</li> <li>▶ Feeling of significance in having an impact on others or the group</li> </ul>	<p><b>Goal ❑ receiving</b> [ ] <b>intrinsic rewards associated with trusting God and loving people. Healing could include ❑</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ healing from selfishness and self-focus</li> <li>▶ healing from fear of risk and vulnerability</li> </ul>
JOB QUALS	<p><b>Qualifications ❑</b> [ ]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Bible knowledge, expertise, experience.</li> <li>▶ Typical leadership traits (extroversion, self-confidence, etc).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Qualifications ❑</b> [ ]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ FAT ❑ Faithful Available Teachable</li> <li>▶ Evidence of God's healing already ❑ a testimony of God's work.</li> </ul>
JOB REQ'S	<p><b>Job Requirements ❑</b> [ ]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Duties and commitments</li> <li>▶ Focus is on tasks and hours</li> </ul>	<p><b>Prescription for Health ❑</b> [ ]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ [ ] and [ ]</li> <li>▶ Focus on development and growth</li> </ul>
ATTITUDES	<p><b>Attitudes ❑</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ I just have to do it.</li> <li>▶ If I don't, no one will.</li> <li>▶ They (you, God) need(s) me.</li> <li>▶ I am not really getting anything out of this.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Attitudes ❑</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ I learn more than my SG members from each discussion.</li> <li>▶ How is God serving me in my role here? How am I being healed?</li> <li>▶ I need to be in leadership (in ministry) much more than I am needed.</li> </ul>
RESULTS	<p><b>Long-term Results ❑</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ [ ] ❑ I have done great things for God. The glory goes to the worker.</li> <li>▶ <b>RESENTMENT ❑</b> I have sacrificed a lot!-for God, for this church, for this ministry involvement.</li> <li>▶ [ ] ❑ I have done as much as I can do.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Long-term Results ❑</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ [ ] ❑ God has done great things for me! The glory goes to the worker (i.e., God).</li> <li>▶ [ ] ❑ I continue to receive much more than I give!</li> <li>▶ <b>ENDURING MOTIVATION ❑</b> I can never get enough!</li> </ul>
APPEALS	<p><b>Motivational Appeals ❑</b> [ ]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ "Missed you at small group. Where were you?"</li> <li>▶ "I am really hoping everyone will be able to come to the church retreat. You all really should go!"</li> </ul> <p><b>GUILT</b>   <b>OUGHT</b>   <b>DUTY</b></p>	<p><b>Motivational Appeals ❑</b> [ ]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ "I wanted to come by to see you because I didn't get to see you at small group. How are you doing?"</li> <li>▶ "I would look forward to the chance to spend time with you at the church retreat."</li> </ul> <p><b>APPEAL</b>   <b>INVITATION</b>   <b>GROWTH</b></p>
EXAMPLES	<p><b>Biblical Images ❑</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Luke 7:35-50 ❑ Simon (proud, judging)</li> <li>▶ Luke 10:38-42 ❑ Martha, resentful while trying to feed Jesus</li> <li>▶ Luke 15:11-32 ❑ The older son protesting the party "I have worked for you for years..."</li> <li>▶ Luke 18: 9-14 ❑ The Pharisee (proud)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Biblical Images ❑</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Luke 7:35-50 ❑ the woman (forgiven, grateful)</li> <li>▶ Luke 10:38-42 ❑ Mary, eager to feed on Jesus' words</li> <li>▶ Luke 15:11-32 ❑ The younger son enjoying the party (no longer a slave but a son)</li> <li>▶ Luke 18:9-14 ❑ The tax collector (humble)</li> </ul>

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List characteristics of God in these passages ■

- ▶ creator
- ▶ owner of all
- ▶ not hungry, not needy
- ▶ deliverer
- ▶ works for those who wait
- ▶ serves
- ▶ gives everything to all

What is God's complaint? (Psalm 50)

- ▶ They bring sacrifices that they think meet needs in God.

What is God's plan for bringing glory to himself? (Psalm 50)

- ▶ offer to God your THANKS
- ▶ pay your vows - do what you say you'll do
- ▶ call out to God in a day of trouble
- ▶ He'll deliver you

What does each passage have in common?  
What surprising picture of God emerges?

Each passage contains a "dramatic reversal."  
You expect God to be exalted, but he in fact is the one who delivers, works, serves, gives. He is the master who serves.

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