

Worship God

GROW Together

SERVE Others

SERVE Others

27th October 2020



Introduction

Do you know the difference is between kinetic energy and potential energy?

Kinetic energy is the energy of motion. It is the "energy contained by a form of matter because of its motion, or work that is needed to accelerate the object from rest to action." It exists whenever an object or person has motion, such as a thrown tennis ball, an icicle falling to the ground, a dog barking, or a person walking. When matter is not in motion, it contains potential energy, which is essentially the opposite of kinetic energy.

Potential energy transfers into kinetic energy when some kind of force is applied to the object to cause it to move in some way. Kinetic energy occurs when potential energy becomes unleashed; that is, when it is used, when it is exerted. In our church, we have potential energy, but it is when the Holy Spirit prompts us to action that we have kinetic energy and things begin to happen, and we begin to grow.

The problem often is not that The Holy Spirit is not prompting us into action, but that we often decline to be involved. For some strange reason, in many churches people come up with lots of different excuses for why they will not get involved.

Some people may think, "Once I grow in my love a little bit then I'll jump in there and do some kind of a ministry. I don't really love people that much right now. In fact, most people just irritate me so I better wait until God gives me some more love and then I'll help out in a ministry." Or "Once I am a little more secure as a Christian and have more knowledge and have read the Bible all the way through, I'll get involved in a ministry."

Both of those statements are so far from the truth. From the very beginning of our journey of faith we should be performing acts of ministry and service and that is how we become more loving, secure, humble and proactive. Just as a weight lifter doesn't look at the weight bar and say, "When I get stronger I'll start lifting weights." Or a runner doesn't say, "Once I get faster I'll start running."

The weight lifter lifts the weights in order to get stronger, and the runner runs races to in order to get faster. And so the truth is. If we don't stand up and get involved in service our spiritual growth will never take off.

WORSHIP God

We GROW in our love for God in our Sunday worship.

GROW Together

We GROW in our love for people in small groups / fellowship groups and friendships.

SERVE Others

We GROW in our service to others through our ministry teams.

DWELLING IN THE WORD

John 13:1-17 New International Version - UK (NIVUK)

Jesus washes his disciples' feet

13 It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

²The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. ³Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel round his waist. ⁵After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped round him.

⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?'

⁷Jesus replied, 'You do not realise now what I am doing, but later you will understand.'

⁸'No,' said Peter, 'you shall never wash my feet.'

Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.'

⁹'Then, Lord,' Simon Peter replied, 'not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!'

¹⁰Jesus answered, 'Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you.' ¹¹For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean.

¹²When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. 'Do you understand what I have done for you?' he asked them. ¹³'You call me "Teacher" and "Lord", and rightly so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. ¹⁶Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

Take a moment to look at this passage. Read it over a few times.

What part of the passage stands out to you? Why?

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Matthew 23:11
How does being a servant bring about greatness?

"The greatest among you will be your servant"
Matthew 23v11 (NIVUK)

2. In the service steve said **if we want to ask how well are we growing as disciples? Then we need to ask how and who are you serving and showing Gods love to?**

- a. Why do you think some people are reluctant to get involved in service and ministry?
- b. If service is a measure of spiritual growth, what would a church with stunted growth (with no service or ministry) look like in terms of its...

Mission?

Worship?

Fellowship?

Discipleship?

3. through service we grow in the security of who we are in God and he quoted John 13:3. Jesus was able to do what he did because he knew who he was. His service came from knowing his identity. He knew where he had come from and he knew that he was on a journey to the cross. A preacher had commented on this passage saying:

THAT JESUS' IDENTITY AND MISSION DICTATED HIS ACTIONS

- a. Can you think of examples of this statement?
- b. How does your identity in Christ affect your actions?

4. How do you see serving with Humility expressed in the church? What impact does this have on your own walk with God?

5. The talk on Sunday ended with these words:

How do we grow as disciples? It's not rocket science... in fact its quite simple. We will grow in love for God as we WORSHIP God. We will grow closer as a church to each other, as we learn from one another and encourage one another as we GROW Together. We will grow to be more like Christ as we seek to reflect Gods love to those around us as we SERVE OTHERS.

a) Do you agree or disagree with this comment?

b) What does this mean for your discipleship?

CLOSE:

As you close take a moment to pray for one another and to give thanks to God for one another.

(Unless shown) All scriptures
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