

Our Reasonable Service

Service to God is not optional for the faithful Christian. Our reasonable service is to present *your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God* (Rom. 12:1).

As part of our reasonable service, it is our hope that every member of the Lord's body at Karns is active in the work of the church, if they are physically able. Some serve in the worship services, evangelism, teachers in the education ministry, and in one of the other Karns ministries. Some of the men serve as deacons, ministers, elders, and ministry leaders. All of these tasks require dedication and time to do them well.

Serving God is personally rewarding and our service edifies and strengthens our brothers and sisters in Christ. But serving God comes with a "cost". Many of the tasks are mentally and physically taxing and furthermore, they require a lot of our personal time. The majority of the members have regular jobs to support their families, there are children to teach and care for, and "time" is a precious commodity. For some, time is more precious than money. How are we to view the "cost" of our service to God? A passage in II Samuel may help when the cost of serving God is considered.

David was told by God to offer a sacrifice on the threshing floor of Araunah, the Jebusite, for his sin of numbering the people. Araunah offered to give David, free-of-cost, everything needed for the sacrifice. David responded, *nor will I offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God with that which costs me nothing* (II Sam. 24:24a). It "costs" us to serve God acceptably.

Our service to God and the church is part of our reasonable service and being a living sacrifice. We should be thankful we have an opportunity to perform the tasks we have chosen. Dear God, help each of us to remember the verses, Colossians 3:23,24, *And whatever you do, do it heartily as to the Lord and not to men,---knowing that from the Lord you will receive your reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Jesus Christ.*

For the elders,
Don Denton