



# BROTHER, MINISTER AND SERVANT

COLOSSIANS 4:7-18



HE  
SEES  
MY  
HEART.

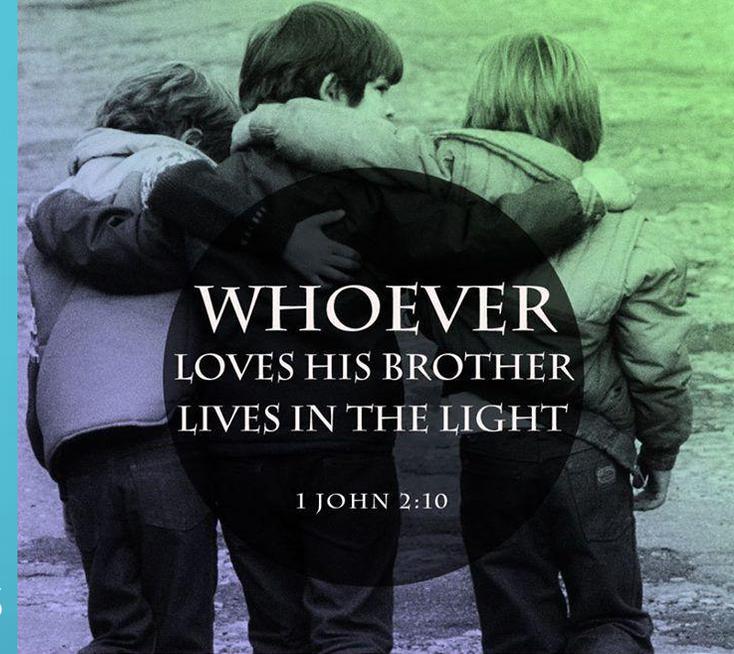
1 SAMUEL 16:7

## LOOKS ON THE HEART

- In a job description these days people seek many things, chief among them are **experience** and **education**. It is why in a resume people like to demonstrate these **qualities**.
- However, before God He has different priorities. (1 Sam. 16:7; Rev. 2:23)
- What are these **priorities** as servants of God? (Col. 4:7)

# 1. BELOVED BROTHER

- There are three things listed in verse 7:
- First, he was a “beloved brother,” but what is a beloved brother?
- First of all, he must be a loving person. (Col. 3:12-14)
- Love is the **fruit** of our Christian growth (Gal. 5:22) and also the aim of our **maturity** (2 Peter 1:5-8). Love is essential to ministry, far above expertise or education.



## ARE YOU A LOVING PERSON?

- Are you loving your brothers and sisters around you with **actions**? (1 John 3:18)
- Moreover, being a beloved brother means you are **loved by others** in return. (Luke 2:52; Prov. 3:3-4)—this is a good sign that you are a loving person. (note: of course not ALL people will love you in return, and it is not our aim)
- (1 Peter 4:8) It makes ministry so much **easier**. (ill: nicest guy)





## Faithfulness

## 2. FAITHFUL MINISTER

- What on earth is a “faithful” minister?
- (1 Cor. 4:1-4) God puts **high value** on our faithfulness before Him (Col. 1:9-11) which is another fruit of the Spirit. (Gal. 5:22)
- It is too easy to **quit** (especially nowadays) or just not bother to do the right thing to begin with.
- Note: “minister” is speaking of serving, not just being a minister as a title. Each of us has a different **spiritual gift** and we should exercise them accordingly. (1 Peter 4:10)

### 3. FELLOW SERVANT

- What is a **fellow servant** in the Lord? (or fellowservant)
- The term here can translate as a “servitor”—a person who has **equal rank** (identity) yet serves as a **servant**.  
(e.g. Oxford University)
- This is who we are in ministry, serving others as servants even though we are **equals** as brothers and sisters in Christ. (Phil. 2:3-4) (Col. 1:7; 4:12)



### 3. FELLOW SERVANT

- There are **differences** (yet they're complementary) between a **bondservant** and a **fellowservant**—we are both.
- We are called to serve both God and man. However, the main focus is always be on **God**. (Matt. 6:33; Gal. 1:10)
- Note: God does not “need” to be served. It is for our **good** to serve Him faithfully.



# CONCLUSION

- Experience is important, but the **heart** is far more so.
- Are you both **loving** and beloved by others? (beloved brother)
- Are you **faithful** in serving God with His spiritual gifts? (faithful minister)
- Are you willing to **serve** your brothers and sisters around you? (fellow servant)

*Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God,  
we do not lose heart. (2 Corinthians 4:1)*