



## Servant's Corner

August 2012

### **A Brahmin Cleans the Toilet**

By Rich Henderson, Love INC Director

Every week an amazing story of transformation is acted out at the Love INC office. My co-worker, Jeevan, was born into a Christian family originally of the Brahmin caste in his native India. One of his less glorious responsibilities as the Love INC Clearinghouse Coordinator is to clean the bathrooms every Thursday. This includes scrubbing the toilet bowl. You don't need to know a lot about Indian culture to know that Brahmins don't clean toilets. That job is for people of lower castes. Yet Jeevan does it weekly. I've never heard him complain about it. I know he doesn't like it (do you know anyone who does?), yet he does it faithfully and with excellence. Why? Because the Holy Spirit is transforming him into the likeness of Jesus, Who "did not come to be served, but to serve" (Mark 10:45). He is qualifying himself every week to earn the title "greatest" in Christ's kingdom (Matthew 23:11).

I contrast Jeevan's humble service to the behavior I once observed by the Senior Pastor of a multi-staff church. He and one of his Associate Pastors were sitting next to each other listening to a sermon at a pastor's gathering I attended. After the preacher said something particularly insightful, I saw the Senior Pastor lean over and say to his Associate, "Write that down. I want that". I was blown away! This man considered himself too important to take down notes for his own future sermons! Apparently he thought that note taking was beneath the dignity of the office of a Senior Pastor, so he had his Associate do it.

How about us? Which of these two attitudes are we more likely to display? Maybe it's time to grab a brush and clean the toilet.



## Servant's Corner

August 2012

### **A Brahmin Cleans the Toilet**

By Rich Henderson, Love INC Director

Every week an amazing story of transformation is acted out at the Love INC office. My co-worker, Jeevan, was born into a Christian family originally of the Brahmin caste in his native India. One of his less glorious responsibilities as the Love INC Clearinghouse Coordinator is to clean the bathrooms every Thursday. This includes scrubbing the toilet bowl. You don't need to know a lot about Indian culture to know that Brahmins don't clean toilets. That job is for people of lower castes. Yet Jeevan does it weekly. I've never heard him complain about it. I know he doesn't like it (do you know anyone who does?), yet he does it faithfully and with excellence. Why? Because the Holy Spirit is transforming him into the likeness of Jesus, Who "did not come to be served, but to serve" (Mark 10:45). He is qualifying himself every week to earn the title "greatest" in Christ's kingdom (Matthew 23:11).

I contrast Jeevan's humble service to the behavior I once observed by the Senior Pastor of a multi-staff church. He and one of his Associate Pastors were sitting next to each other listening to a sermon at a pastor's gathering I attended. After the preacher said something particularly insightful, I saw the Senior Pastor lean over and say to his Associate, "Write that down. I want that". I was blown away! This man considered himself too important to take down notes for his own future sermons! Apparently he thought that note taking was beneath the dignity of the office of a Senior Pastor, so he had his Associate do it.

How about us? Which of these two attitudes are we more likely to display? Maybe it's time to grab a brush and clean the toilet.