



## Servant's Corner

October 2012



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### Our Inadequacy To Serve Others

By Rich Henderson, Love INC Director

Most mornings, as soon as I become conscious, I claim what some might think is an unusual Biblical promise—*Apart from Me you can do nothing (John 15:5b)*. Why this promise? Simply because I need the reminder at the very start of my day that, apart from Jesus, I can't produce anything of eternal value that day. I don't want to waste a single day that God gives me on this earth. Reminding myself of this promise puts me in the mindset of depending on Him as I start the day.

Recently the Lord gave me a vivid picture of my union with Him and my need to be in moment-by-moment fellowship with him. While on a prayer retreat I sat on the shore of Tomales Bay watching 4 kayakers paddling towards the ocean. Upon closer observation I realized that while there were 4 kayakers, there were only three kayaks. Two people were paddling together in a two seat kayak. The Lord put it on my heart that this was a picture of my life as a Christian, two people, me and Jesus, sharing one life. (Paul uses marriage to illustrate this same truth in Ephesians 5:22-33).

The next day I received more insight. I tend to act like the person in the front seat of a two-person kayak. Intellectually I know the Lord is in the boat with me. Every once in a while I'll glance behind me to make sure He's there and see if He has anything to say, but most of the time I act as though I'm paddling by myself. It dawned on me that day that I would do far better if I would move to the back seat of the kayak and invite the Lord to have the front seat. King David said, *I have set the Lord continually before me; (Psalm 16:8a)*. That's the key to our adequacy in serving others—setting the Lord in the center of our vision and depending totally on Him.

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