

# Short Talk

(SHT011)

## Serving with attitude

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## SHORT TALK: “SERVING WITH ATTITUDE” (SHT011)

<b>Aim of Short talk:</b>	To encourage people to serve wholeheartedly and without complaining!
<b>Main themes:</b>	Serving, Complaining, Wholeheartedness
<b>Biblical references:</b>	John 13:1-15, Matthew 25:40, Philippians 2:14, Colossians 3:23-24, Ephesians 6:7
<b>Props:</b>	Table, two washing up bowls, two aprons, two pairs of washing up gloves, mugs.
<b>Before the Service:</b>	You need two people for the drama who are willing to learn the simple words. One person is called G for Grumpy and the other person is called NG for Not grumpy! SL is the Service leader. Place the table centre stage and cover with mugs, leaving enough room for a washing up bowl.

One of the things that Jesus calls his followers to do is to serve other people like He did.

- Can anyone tell me what serving is? *(receive answers)*
- That’s right.....it is doing something for the good of someone else.
- It is not doing something for me but for you.

Jesus served his disciples in all sorts of ways.....

- Can anyone remember what Jesus did for them during the last meal he ate with them? *(receive answers)*
- He washed their smelly feet!

So let’s think together about a few ways that we can serve other people.....

- What can we do at home to serve our families?
- I’ll give you one thought....you could lay the table for tea to help your mum....
- Any other ideas?*(receive answers)*

How about at school or college – what can we do to serve people there?

- I’ll give you one thought....you could make friends with someone who is always left out....
- Any other ideas? *(receive answers)*

If you look around church today, you will see all sorts of people serving....

- People who have come early so that they can welcome others.
- Other people who are teaching the children about Jesus or teaching the adults about Jesus,
- Other people who are making refreshments, helping with the music and so on.

As we serve other people, we are actually serving Jesus....

- that’s an amazing thought isn’t it?
- Jesus said, “*Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me*” (Matthew 25:40)

But although it is the right thing to do, serving isn't always easy is it?

So often we find it hard to forget about what we want and think about what other people need,

- and sometimes when we serve other people we might have the wrong attitude.
- Watch this simple drama and see which person's attitude is the right one.

### DRAMA:

*(Enter G carrying a washing up bowl, wearing an apron and washing up gloves. They plonk the washing up bowl on a table covered in mugs and speak in a very grumpy voice)*

G: Look at all these cups I've got to wash up again for this church. I don't know every week there seem to be more and more to wash up. *(washes the mugs in the bowl)* I have been doing this for over a year now. I wonder if people even appreciate all this washing up.....they probably don't even notice.

*(Exit G with their washing up bowl. Enter NG with their washing up bowl. They place it on the table and speak in an encouraging voice)*

NG: Look at all these cups to wash up again for this church. I think it is wonderful that every week there seem to be more and more to wash up. *(washes the mugs in the bowl)* That means there are more people joining our church. I have been doing this job for over a year now. I am so glad that I can serve people in this way as I know that I am actually serving Jesus.

*(Enter G who stands alongside NG)*

SL: Which attitude did you think was best? Was it Grumpy's or Not Grumpy's? *(receive answers)*

- It was Not Grumpy's attitude of course.
- The Bible tells us to *"Do everything without complaining or arguing"* (Phil 2:14)
- So when we serve someone, let's remember to serve joyfully and not grumpily.
- Now watch this:

*(G goes back to the table with their bowl and half-heartedly washes the mugs again)*

G: Hmm.....I'll just give these mugs a quick clean.....they don't have to be squeaky clean. They'll be used by the same people next week, and the week after that and the week after..

*(Exit G with their washing up bowl. NG goes back to the table with their bowl and whole-heartedly washes the mugs again)*

NG: I want to get these mugs as clean as possible. They are used by so many different people that I need to make sure they are washed well. There we are.....cups fit for a king....what a privilege to serve Him.

*(Enter G who stands alongside NG)*

SL: Which attitude did you think was best? Was it Grumpy's or Not Grumpy's? *(receive answers)*

- It was Not Grumpy's attitude of course.
- The Bible says: *"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men"* (Colossians 3:23)
- When we serve someone, let's remember to do it the very best we can, remembering that we are actually serving the Lord.

So this morning as we have thought about serving other people,

- can I encourage you to find lots of different ways to serve.
- Serve joyfully and not grumpily,
- doing the very best you can for Jesus said:
- *“Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me”*  
(Matthew 25:40)