

## Serve God on His Terms, Not Your Own.

By Paul R. Shockley  
www.prshockley.org

Not merely eyesight, but vision;  
Not merely vision, but total commitment;  
Not merely total commitment, but possession of a grievous disposition;  
Not merely possession of a grievous disposition, but a calling to a life well-lived.

Oh Gracious Father:

In my daily activities I find myself lacking the biblical, Christ-like sensitivity to recognize that people are sheep without a shepherd. Frail, lost, needy, pained, & victimized, I all too often turn away, ignore, & marginalize their greatest needs, rationalizing what you would have me do with other daily commitments, desires, priorities, & responsibilities. Moreover, when I do respond to their needs, I see within myself contrary desires, desires that are in conflict with my actions; my heart & actions do not often harmonize.

Therefore, I humbly beseech & reverently ask you-please give me a Christ-like disposition to see people as you do, to serve people as you would, and to bear testimony of your person-for your glory, & not my own.

Give me eyesight to see people as sheep without a shepherd. But don't merely give me eyesight; please give me clear vision to serve them as Jesus Christ did & demonstrated (Phil. 2:5-11).

But please don't give me a vision to serve them, but a heart of compassion to actually step out & love them, day-by-day, moment-by-moment, with the love of Jesus Christ-as a

diligent, faithful servant. May my desires & my will harmonize together in such a way that I'm able to commit my whole person to the true good of others. Said differently, may I allow Jesus Christ live mightily through me (Galatians 2:20).

But please don't give merely give me a heart of compassion to actually step out as a faithful servant, but develop in me an overwhelming, grievous burden for not only my frailties of the flesh & willful acts of rebellion, but for those who don't intimately know Jesus Christ & can't know Jesus Christ (unreached people-groups). May these burdens find sincere consistent expression in prayer on bended knee with outstretched arms & hands, & a back & face bent low.

But please don't merely give me a grievous disposition, but call me to a life-well lived. Use me as your tool, to see lives changed for your glory & their best. May I never let up, give up, turn away, or marginalize your calling. Instead, with endurance, may I passionately serve *you* on *your* terms, & not my own! Indeed, may my life's response to your calling consistently & lovingly be, "*Yes, Lord, yes; do with me what you will.*"