

## The Freedom of Servanthood

### Oral Reports

In the beginning when we started out in the Lighthouse we had no guitar. We sang *a cappella*. There were lots of songs that I had learned in the Jesus Movement that I brought back to Chattanooga. Like “Love, love, love...” You have to start songs on key. One of the reasons why I was able to start in the right key was because I learned it when I was four, five, six years old. If you don’t learn it at that age, you never will learn it. It’s very difficult. That’s why we have pitch class today.

I was taught to lift up my voice to be heard. I was recognized for this among the teachers in my school. They always bragged on me and confirmed that in me. When I taught school, instead of having the children writing things, I gave them things to read and give oral reports. I did this, even though it was unusual for Junior High School.

In the beginning it was hard for the children. They got up in trembling and fear. After a few months they didn’t have a problem with it anymore. The children went on to the higher classes and they would come back appreciating me for doing this with them.

This is something good and practical we want to put into the edah.

To lift up your voice to speak publicly and to get on an airplane — those are our greatest fears. Like Hanna LeBlanc. I started her out in Fort Lauderdale. She gave a report. She did so well and got over her intimidation. She kept on giving reports. She was so thankful. That’s where we get rid of fear. Tonight you (*addressing Taleh who is about to give her oral report*) stand before thousands of people, all the cloud of witnesses and the angels.

*Taleh gave her report explaining the meaning of the word “edah.”*

Now come the questions. If you walk 1000 miles you begin with the first step. You’ve got about 9999 more to go.

*Then came the questions, which she answered straightforwardly and in peace.*

She did exceptionally well for the first time. She has potential. She can grow. She threw off that intimidation. You’re off the plane now.

Ruel — Lk 17:5-10 — All we do we have to do by faith. I heard someone say, “I don’t need to do that.” That was wrong. Faith is from the heart. What I do I want to do from my heart. When people say, “I don’t want to do that,” that’s not faith.

Zemirah — I am thankful that we live in a place where change is always on the horizon. When revelation becomes a person’s possession they start obeying secretly, without someone always being there watching them. We go from glory to glory, from change to change, from greater to greater depth.

### Slavery

Lk 17:7-10 — You don’t thank a slave for doing what he’s supposed to do. You don’t thank your child. You appreciate your slave or your child. You don’t say, “Thank you, thank you, we appreciate you, slave,” as if he is doing you a favor. Our Master doesn’t treat us this way. We’re His servants. We long to hear Him say, “Well done, good and faithful servant!” This is how we are to be, how servants are to be. Verses 9-10 — That’s what our Master is teaching. I think slaveholders learned from our Master.

We don’t live by the thanks that we get. Certainly the servant is appreciated. He knows he is doing what he is supposed to do. He is receiving honor from our Father.

1 Tim 6:3-5 — “Teach and urge these things.” Verse 4 describes John Brown.

It’s amazing what servanthood does. We can also learn a lot about servants from what Peter said. 1

Pet 2:18 tells how they are to be with their masters. 1 Pet 3:1 says “Likewise, in the same way...” wives are to be with their husbands. That’s how they win their trust.

Some people have a hard time with their crew head. They have to be like 1 Pet 2:18-21. They will be greater people. Don’t think they’re mean because they want to get things done. They are not supposed to be harsh and mean. But what if they are not and are just trying to get things done? Verses 18-20 says “with all deference” — yielding. If you do that, you have our Father’s approval. If you complain you don’t

t have it. Sometimes we have people we think are hard; our Father will judge them if they are.

1 Pet 3:1 —Wives should be the same way. Just do what it says. You win our Father's approval.

Should slaves that were lazy be beaten? When that happened the other slaves would say, "Good, good," because they have to make up for the lazy one.

1 Pet 3:1-2 — It is so wonderful we have examples. You won't have a hard time if you do that. You can change your husband, your master, everything, just by that. Submission is powerful. Wives are powerful. She can temper her husband if he gets angry. If she reacts she makes it twice as bad. If we learn that, we learn a lot. A lot of people haven't learned it yet. They are not approved by our Father. They are answering for it. Only those who are humble and submissive are approved. That's how our Master was. That's how Eliezer of Abraham was. Abraham was his master. If Abraham was a little tough, Eliezer just was submissive.

Yonah —I was thinking about the story of the man who came up to our Master because his slave was sick. He said to our Master, "Don't come to my house. I am not worthy for this. Just say the word and my servant will be healed. I am under authority, so I know if you just say the word that is enough." There is a connection between faith and authority. This man had the greatest faith our Master had seen up until that time. This man was just surrendering to Yahshua. "I am under you. Whatever you say. Nobody can help my servant. I trust you."

If we have faith in our Master Yahshua we can be content to just be a servant. There is nothing in me that I want to be leader, but there is something in me that doesn't want to be a servant. I have to crucify it. If I do that I'll hear some day, "Well done good and faithful servant." Not, "Thank you servant," but you have been a good servant. If we surrender to Him, He will take care of us. Like in the story, "The Harness of the Lord." What good is that scrawny little horse that rebelled against the harness?

Faith is an awesome thing. Last night Zebanah called me. She was immersed. She surrendered. It was the most wonderful thing. Now our Father will take care of her. Faith is something deep. When you hear faith from someone your heart is overjoyed for how they will be taken care of for eternity.

1 Tim 6:1-3 tells the rest of the story. I didn't read it to you. You can see what kind of people they are, teaching something different than our Master. The example of the centurion and his servant is our Master's word. He taught these things. He didn't say, "Let's kill 700,000 people to free those slaves." 85% had good masters. Of course there are always bad masters. They are the foolish ones.

ha-Emeq —If there were bad masters they could have been disciplined by the law. The Bible is the best handbook for slavery. It tells you how to treat them.

Even Rebecca had servants coming back with her.

What should the slaves have done after they had been set free? Rob the highways? That's exactly what took place after they'd been released. Terrible things happened. Is Châm better off in America today than he was before the Civil War?

Those slaves had been delivered from a horrible life in Africa. They had masters there. I saw a documentary in which an African chief said that there never would have been slavery in America if there hadn't been slavery in Africa before. The slave traders couldn't have rounded up all these slaves.

They were sold to them by native African slaveholders. They sold the worst slaves to them. When these slaves came to America they were delivered from worse conditions. They had been slaves before they came to America. They were Canaanites.

I'm not trying to promote slavery. I'm just telling you what the Bible says, what our Master says. We have to see history rightly. A lot of things we have to re-learn. I don't want to go back to slave days. I don't want to reinstitute that.

700,000 boys were slaughtered in the Civil War.

1 Tim 6:3-7 — Anyone who rails against slavery is like these people; their character is described in verses 4 and 5. Our Father didn't say anything against slavery, nor did our Master, nor did Paul. Most slaves were treated well. They took care of their master's house. They could have killed their master. Why didn't they?

In time we'll learn more and more so we can be in Harper's Ferry and tell the truth. We're servants ourselves.

ha-Emeq — I liked so much what Yonah said about recognizing this thing in him that doesn't want to be a servant. That's what needs to die. All the proud ones say, "No, no, rise up. No one has a right to tell me what to do." Our Father always made it clear. We just have to be humble. It's just like the law of gravity: humility gets grace. If the wife, the worker on the crew, or our children are humble, grace comes like the sun over the horizon. Then the grumpy person feels better. The sun comes out, life changes. It's our Father's way. I love it. Satan's way, the evil one's way fills the universe with a stench. The humble way wins.

Zakar —It's like a key. If you smile at someone it unlocks them. We're gaining keys. We could change someone's destiny just by doing the simple things we are hearing. A key is very little, but without it you can't do anything, you can't unlock anything.

Satan capitalizes on that evil thing that's been put into us as children to be something great, something important. I am thankful we just can be humble and let our Father do it and lift us up in due time.