

Friday, February 26, 2010

### Doing a Job or Offering a Service?

*“Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men...”* – Ephesians 6:7

I spent my senior year of high school and my summers during college working at a Rite Aid drug store near where I lived. Getting a job (beyond my regular babysitting) before my senior year was a non-negotiable requirement that my parents insisted on, and in hindsight yes, it was a good learning and growing experience for me. However, that first summer that I had the job I hated it with a passion. Eventually, I grew to enjoy some, if not all, aspects of it, but I was continuously annoyed by rude customers, grumpy coworkers, or people's assumptions that my being a cashier meant I must have a low IQ. At one point I remember voicing some complaints to my future father-in-law over how my coworkers interacted with customers and how unprofessional they seemed. His response to my stories was to say, “Well, it all depends on how people look at it. Are you doing a job or offering a service?”

That comment, while not directed at *my* at times lousy attitude, caught me off guard. Sure, I was working hard to serve at church and at college, and I was working toward a degree in Education so that I could serve others, but I had missed the boat on viewing where God had me right at that moment as service.

I often come back and reflect on that conversation, and try to remember that even when the tasks seem mundane and ordinary, God can turn them into something beautiful if I offer them to Him as acts of service performed in love. After all, Jesus Himself gave us the perfect example of humility and love, serving those He had created. Remembering this, it is easier to serve God and others in love, knowing that He can use the most menial or seemingly insignificant task that I can perform.

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, help us to always do everything we do out of love for You and with a humble spirit so that we can serve You and those around us. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

-- Becky Feuerbach