

October 25th, 1984

# Speech at Seattle Pacific University Chapel

C. William Pollard

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Luk 14:5

SEATTLE PACIFIC UNIVERSITY  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1984  
CHAPEL  
C. W. POLLARD

*records*

HOW DO YOU ~~GET~~ THIS CLEAR CALL OF DISCIPLESHIP WITH YOUR PRESENT  
COURSE OF ~~INSTRUCTION~~ <sup>study</sup> WHETHER THAT BE ACCOUNTING, ECONOMICS, BUSI-  
NESS, OR COMPUTERS. AFTER ALL AREN'T YOU ~~IN IT FOR THE MONEY.~~ <sup>essentially how to make</sup>

LOOK AT THE COMPANY I REPRESENT, SERVICEMASTER, GROWTH IS #1. <sup>ROI</sup>

*ROI*

*How does that feel with our corporate objectives to honor God in all we do*

JUST A FEW DAYS AGO, I WAS TALKING TO A YOUNG COLLEGE STUDENT  
ABOUT HIS FUTURE AND HIS CAREER. HE WAS AN ECONOMICS MAJOR AND  
EXPRESSED UNCERTAINTY ABOUT GOING INTO BUSINESS. HE WAS UNSURE  
ABOUT HIS MOTIVES. IN A NICE WAY, HE WAS TRYING TO TELL ME THAT  
HE WAS HAVING A PROBLEM ABOUT SPENDING HIS LIFE MAKING MONEY.

THE ISSUE SQUARELY PUT TO A DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST IN THE MARKET  
PLACE IS, WHAT IS THERE IN COMMON BETWEEN GOD AND PROFIT? WHAT

IS THERE ABOUT THE MARKET PLACE THAT DEMANDS MY COMMITMENT? WHERE  
IS THE VALUE, THAT GOD-WORTH, IN AN ACTIVITY THAT GENERATES PROFIT

WHEN THERE ARE SUCH GREAT NEEDS IN THE CHURCH, THE MISSION FIELD,  
OR WITH THE POOR AND THE DEPRIVED? LISTEN TO THIS STORY OF TWO

MEN - EACH SEEKING TO IDENTIFY THE REASON WHY!

*Maybe this story will help*

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WHAT IS THIS GAME OF LIFE ALL ABOUT AS I TALLY UP THE SCORE?  
IS THE ISSUE HERE ONE OF A SIMPLER LIFESTYLE? OR THE DILEMMA  
OF THE RICH VERSUS THE POOR? COULD THE STORY HAVE BEEN TOLD IN  
THE REVERSE -- WHERE A MAN OF GREAT WEALTH AND WORLDLY ACCOMPLISH-  
MENT HAD FOUND THE TRUE MEANING OF LIFE AND WON THE GAME? THE  
ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION CAN ONLY BE UNDERSTOOD AS WHEN ONE VIEWS  
HIS WORK, HIS BUSINESS, HIS EARNINGS OF A PROFIT AS A MEANS AND  
NOT AN END. *Answer the why quest*

IN SERVICEMASTER, OUR OBJECTIVES ARE SIMPLY STATED: TO HONOR  
GOD IN ALL WE DO, TO HELP PEOPLE DEVELOP, TO PURSUE EXCELLENCE,  
AND TO GROW PROFITABLY. EXPLAIN MEANING OF OBJECTIVES.

*- God - not just Godliness - but the source - the entire system -  
- Repairment - growth from within - 20% - necessary  
- Pursuit of Excellence - Types of work - customer can do it himself*

THE REALITY IS THAT GOD HAS CHOSEN YOU AND ME TO ACCOMPLISH HIS  
WILL AND HAS CALLED US TO BE DISCIPLES, TO INVEST OUR LIVES IN  
PEOPLE. THE ONLY LEGITIMATE LINK THEN, FOR THOSE OF US WITH CAREERS  
IN THE MARKET PLACE, BETWEEN GOD AND PROFIT IS PEOPLE -- PEOPLE

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WHO HAVE BEEN CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD -- PEOPLE WHO SPEND MOST OF THEIR WAKING HOURS IN A WORK ENVIRONMENT -- PEOPLE WHO NEED TO BE MINISTERED TO, WHO ARE IN THE PROCESS OF BECOMING MORE LIKE CHRIST OR MORE LIKE THE EVIL ONE -- THERE ARE NO ORDINARY PEOPLE. YOU SEE, I DON'T HAVE A JOB, I HAVE A MINISTRY TO PEOPLE. I DON'T WORK FOR A CHRISTIAN COMPANY, SERVICEMASTER IS ONLY A VEHICLE IN WHICH GOD HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO USE ME TO WORK WITH CUSTOMERS, EMPLOYEES, AND FAMILIES.

HERE CITE SERVICEMASTER EXAMPLES FOR WITNESS: 1) MARKET PLACE RECOGNITION, 2) MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES OF OVER 70,000 PEOPLE. ALSO, DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE AND WHAT THEY ARE BECOMING. 20% OF MANAGERS, PRODUCTION STAFFS, AND SENIOR OFFICERS WHO STARTED WITH US AS TRASHMEN - CITE C. S. LEWIS.

THUS, AS A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST, I AM REQUIRED TO SPEND MYSELF IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS. PROFIT IS ONLY A MEASURE OF THE RESOURCES TO BE USED AND SPENT FOR GOD. IT IS NOT AN END IN ITSELF. THE

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ISSUE YOU SEE IS NOT ON THE AMOUNT OF WEALTH, IT IS A SIMPLE QUESTION OF OWNERSHIP. THE PRINCIPLE OF LUKE 14, IS THAT I, AS A DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST, OWN NOTHING. ALL THAT I HAVE, MY TIME, MY TALENTS, AND MY WEALTH DEMAND USE, WISE EXPENDITURE OR STEWARDSHIP. OTHERWISE, THERE IS NO JUSTICE WITH GOD. YOU SEE, THE ONLY REASON THAT YOU OR I POSSESS SOMETHING IN A MENTAL CAPACITY, A POSITION, OR A THING THAT SOMEONE ELSE DOES NOT HAVE IS FOR GREATER USE, GREATER EXPENDITURE TO FULFILL GOD'S PURPOSE.

AS JIM ELLIOTT PUT IT, "A MAN IS NO FOOL TO GIVE UP WHAT HE CANNOT KEEP TO GAIN THAT WHICH HE DOES NOT HAVE." THERE IS NO PERSONAL ACCUMULATION PLAN WITH GOD. WE ARE ALL CALLED TO BE SPENT FOR HIS PURPOSE. "TO WHOM MUCH HAS BEEN GIVEN, MUCH WILL BE REQUIRED." "FOR YOU KNOW THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THAT THOUGH HE WAS RICH, YET FOR YOUR SAKES HE BECAME POOR SO THAT YOU THROUGH HIS POVERTY MIGHT BE RICH."

IN FACT THIS IS THE VERY NATURE OF GOD - TO BE A GIVER: PHILIPPIANS

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THAT YOU SHOULD" . . . TALK A LOT, THAT YOU SHOULD READ ABOUT IT, THAT YOU SHOULD DISCUSS IT -- NO THAT YOU SHOULD "DO IT." THE RESULTS IN THE LIFE OF A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST IS TO SEE THE CHANGED LIVES OF THE PEOPLE HE HAS SERVED.

THE OPPORTUNITIES ARE GREAT BEFORE US TO SERVE GOD AS A DISCIPLE OF HIS, WHETHER IT BE IN THE MISSION FIELD, EDUCATION, THE CHURCH, THE HOME, A PROFESSION, OR THE MARKET PLACE. GOD WANTS DISCIPLES, AND IN THE PROCESS, HE MAKES NO DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN THE SACRED AND THE SECULAR. WE ARE ALL BEING CALLED TO "FULL-TIME CHRISTIAN SERVICE." - *Story of Anne*

*So go forth and serve your Lord in  
all market place remembering that  
it is the Jesus Christ who is your Lord and  
Savior and it is to him that we must  
give witness to the world around us*