



Christians and Service Dogs

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- We serve a master



Romans 6:15–19 (NKJV)

What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not! **16** Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? **17** But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. **18** And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. **19** I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.

Christians and Service Dogs

- We must hear and obey our master



John 10:1–5 (NKJV)

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. **2** But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. **3** To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. **4** And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. **5** Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.”



Christians and Service Dogs

- We must deny our own will

Matthew 16:24 (NKJV)

Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.



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- We must be attentive to the needs of others

Philippians 2:3–8 (NKJV)

Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. **4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.** **5** Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, **6** who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, **7** but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. **8** And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

Christians and Service Dogs

- While we are on duty, we must avoid and ignore distractions

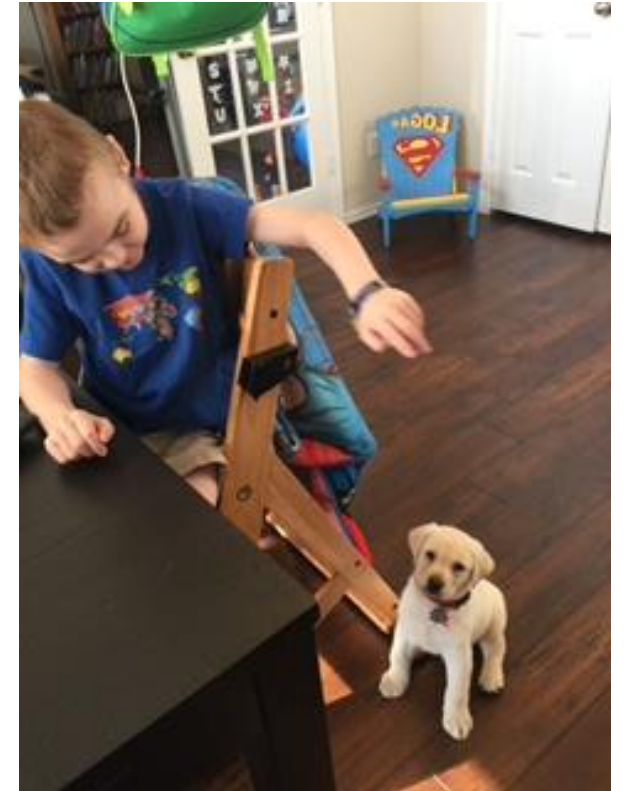


Luke 12:42–46 (ESV)

And the Lord said, “Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom his master will set over his household, to give them their portion of food at the proper time? **43** Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. **44** Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions. **45** But if that servant says to himself, ‘My master is delayed in coming,’ and begins to beat the male and female servants, and to eat and drink and get drunk, **46** the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know, and will cut him in pieces and put him with the unfaithful.

Christians and Service Dogs

- We need extensive training



2 Timothy 3:16–17 (ESV)

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, **17** that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Christians and Service Dogs

- We have unique purposes for which we are carefully prepared

Special Roles of Service Dogs

- Avoid obstacles
- Assess danger
- Find safe/unobstructed path
- Aid stability and balance
- Retrieve dropped items
- Detect bombs
- Detect drugs
- Detect allergy triggers
- Detect seizures
- Protect during seizure
- Detect low/high blood sugar
- Alert to important sounds
- Detect emotional upset
- Calm emotional upset
- Open doors
- Give/retrieve wallet at store

Special Roles

- Moses
- David
- Esther
- Us

1 Corinthians 12:12–18 (ESV)

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ... **14** For the body does not consist of one member but of many. **15** If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. **16** And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. **17** If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? **18** But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.

Christians and Service Dogs

- We have a major impact on the well-being of others



Matthew 5:16 (ESV)

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Christians and Service Dogs

- We may be called to lay down our lives for another



Service dog hit by bus trying to save blind owner in New York

By Melonyce McAfee, CNN

Updated 8:05 AM ET, Wed June 10, 2015



Figo to the rescue: Service dog saves owner 01:48

Story highlights

An 8-year-old golden retriever comes between his legally blind owner and a bus

"I thank God that I have him, and that he survived, too," says owner Audrey Stone

(CNN) — A service dog who leaped between his owner and an oncoming bus is recovering in a New York veterinary clinic after the incident on Monday.

Figo, an 8-year-old golden retriever, was crossing a street in Brewster with his legally blind owner, Audrey

1 John 3:16–18 (ESV)

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. **17** But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? **18** Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

Christians and Service Dogs

- Our greatest reward is our Master's praise



Matthew 25:21 (NKJV)

His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'