

Examining the Quality of Christian Service

Philippians 2:12-30

False Christian Service	True Christian Service
Man pleasing “not as in my presence only” – v. 12	God pleasing “much more in my absence” – v. 12
Careless	Diligent “work out your salvation in fear and trembling” – v. 12
Self-led & fueled	Spirit-led & empowered “God...at work in you, both to will and to work” – v. 13
Grumbling γογγυσμον has guttural sound, like murmuring – v. 14	Blameless αμεμπτοι – v. 15
Disputing or complaining, διαλογισμων - v. 12	Harmless or innocent, ακεραιoi – v. 15
Impure	Faultless or above reproach – v. 15
Self-guided	Scripture-guided “holding fast the word of life” – v. 16
Unfulfilled	Joyful “share my joy with you...share your joy with me” – vv.17-18
Self-focused “seeking after their own interests” – v. 21	Other-focused “genuinely concerned for your welfare” – v. 20
Unreliable	Proven Character or proven worth, δοκιμην - v. 22
Proud	Submissive “like a child serving his father” – v. 22
Independent	Interdependent “brother, fellow worker, fellow soldier” – v. 25
Indifferent	Longing or tenderness, επιποθων – v. 26
Selfish	Sacrificial “risking his life” – v. 30

True Christian service is not merely... ✓ **accomplishing** more and more tasks for God
 ✓ **altruism**, in the sense of human effort to do good
 ✓ **automatic**, as if checking all the boxes equals results