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## God Will Exalt Philippians 2:9

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### “Leave the driving to us”

**B**ob had just finished teaching the junior high Sunday school class, when one of his students, Mike, questioned him. “You coming tonight? I know my mom's receiving that service award. She really does a lot.”

“I wouldn't miss it,” replied Bob to his student. Bob works hard to go to events that are important to his students. Many times he's gone to their basketball or soccer games, piano recitals and plays, or to their award night. They call him at home too. Bob really goes the extra mile for these kids, and it doesn't bother him that his pastor doesn't know all he does. Really, Bob doesn't expect anything. He just likes getting involved in the kid's, lives.

Mike's mom is Liz McCormick. She's on the pastor's Aide Board, the Missions Committee—you name it. She really gives of herself. At the banquet, to no one's surprise, she won the service award. Although this is usually the last presentation, the pastor did something a little different this year. “I have been inspired by the servant's hear that many of you exemplify. But there's one individual who is willing to spend countless hours in ministry without taking any credit or needing to be seen. Bob, would you come up here please?”

The longstanding ovation floored Bob.

### Reflection

The Greyhound bus commercial has the catchy slogan. “Leave the driving to us.” God wants us to leave the rewarding to him. Many times we do things that exalt ourselves, accept high-profile tasks, talk about our spirituality or remind our associates of what we deserve. Let us humbly serve God because we love him, and let him decide just when and how he wants to honor us. When you think that he's forgotten you, just rest in him. Don't try to push your way to the front to be seen by others. Don't be a spiritual backseat driver. Leave the exalting to God.

### Accountability and Application

- Are your good works behind the scene, or are they always, up front and visible?
- Do you have a Bob in your church? Describe him.
- Can you pinpoint an area in your life regarding your desire for exaltation that you need to work on?
- Take a moment to take inventory of your recent conversations, thought patterns, etc., and look for self-exaltation tendencies.

## Philippians 2:9

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

Prayer: Lord, forgive me for those times when I have sought to exalt myself. Take away my desire to be noticed, honored, rewarded and promoted. Make my motives to serve pure.