The Sweet Spirit of God's Servant

(A Tribute to Pastor Charles Dietterich)
(2 Timothy 2:24-25)
1-11-2026

Introduction: Pastor Dietterich is a hero to me. There are many qualities that I admire about him.
--Approachable
--Friendly – goes out of his way to meet people and greet them
--Never seen him where he didnt' have a smile
--Encouraging
--Supportive
--Someone who's comfortable to be with – don't have to "walk on eggshells"
--Reminds me of my grandfather Pop
"A merry heart doeth good like a medicine" – Maybe that's why he has lived so long.

When I thnk of him, 2 Timothy 2:20-21 comes to mind.

Here a contrast is made between Special & Common Vessels (Tools/Dishes etc.) (v.20)
Who does God use for a special task? What type of Christian is most effective in God's Service?

God's Honorable (most valuable) Vessel or Tool is:

> **<u>SANCTIFIED</u> for the Master's Plan** ["Sanctified" – v.21a]
> *(He is <u>Set-apart</u>)*
>
> **<u>SUITABLE</u> for the Master's Hand** ["Meet" – v.21b]
> *(He is <u>Useful</u>)*
>
> **<u>SEASONED</u> for the Master's Task** ["Prepared" – v.21c]
> *(He is <u>Ready</u>)*

Attitude is of utmost importance in God's Servant:

- **What attitudes must be present for God to use any one of us?**
- **What attitudes comprise a "sweet spirit" in God's servant?**

1. **Humble** in service
   ("The Servant (Slave) of the Lord")
   A willingness to be a slave of Jesus

2. **Not Quarrelsome**
   ("must not strive")
   Not a fighter with words; Does not go to war with his words; Not a combatant in speech.
   It was said of the Lord Jesus: Mt 12:19 He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets.

3. **Kind** to everyone
   ("gentle")
   To be mild mannered toward people.
   Jas 3:18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

4. **Skillful** in teaching
   ("Apt to teach")
   God blessed Pastor Dietterich with a clear voice and artistic ability which he used for God's service.

5. **Patient** when wronged
   ("patient")
   A forbearing attitude toward people with bad attitudes.

6. **Meek** when opposed
   ("in meekness instructing")
   A Gentle style of teaching immature and characterless children.