

“Being a Servant”

(Ephesians 6:7-8; John 13:1-17)

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Introduction:

1. The world clamors for first place e.g. first in line for food, first to claim the best seats, etc.
2. Wanting to be first is something we claim rights to at a young age.
3. God showed mankind how to be servants rather than selfish.
4. God and Christ gave us the perfect model on how to be servants.
5. The New Testament reveals God’s Will regarding service.

I. God’s Example of Service (John 3:16).

1. God: The creator and sustainer of the universe. There’s only one!
2. So Loved: The adverb “so” emphasizes the fervor and intensity that God “loves”.
3. The World: Referencing all souls, everywhere, and at all times.
4. Gave: This is a verb. It’s not only active, but it is proactive.
5. His only Son: God allowed His one and only Son to be sacrificed as atonement for sin.

II. Christ Example of Service.

1. Jesus taught about servant hood (Mt.6:24; Mt.10:24-25; Mt.20:28).
2. Jesus showed the world what service looks like (Jn.13:1-17).
 - a. He loved His disciples unto the very end (v.1). This included Judas.
 - b. He washed their feet as an example of service (v.5). This included Judas.
 - c. Washing feet wasn’t an ordinance; it was an example of service (v.15).

III. New Testament Plea to Serve.

1. Paul reminded the slaves of his day to comply with their masters commands, not with eyes service, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God (Eph.6:7-8).

2. We like to receive credit where credit is due. God notices our service and will reward us accordingly (Mt.6:4).

Conclusion:

1. We have seen that God, the creator and sustainer of all things served man's greatest need i.e. offering up His Son for our sins!

2. We have seen Christ both teach and illustrate servant hood as an example for us to follow.

3. We have seen the New Testament plea for us to serve with knowing that God our service is done with Christ in mind, and God will reward us accordingly.

4. Greatness isn't inherited or claimed by proclamation, greatness is being like Jesus!