



**“The One Who Serves”**  
**Luke 22:24-27**  
**Pastor’s Choice Series**

**Introduction**

Luke 22:24-27 – *“And a dispute also developed among them as to which one of them was regarded as being the greatest. And He said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles domineer over them; and those who have authority over them are called ‘Benefactors.’ But it is not this way for you; rather, the one who is the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like the servant. For who is greater, the one who reclines at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at the table? But I am among you as the one who serves.”*

**Background**

Institution of the Lord’s Supper/New Covenant

The argument over greatness is happening again (Matt. 20:20-28; Mark 10:35-45; Luke 9:46-48)

**I. Selfish Desire – what the disciples are after (v. 24)**

<sup>24</sup> *And a dispute also developed among them as to which one of them was regarded as being the greatest.*

2 Cor. 5:15: *And he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.*

**II. Selfishness Evident – why they shouldn’t be after it (v. 25)**

<sup>25</sup> *And He said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles domineer over them; and those who have authority over them are called ‘Benefactors.’”*

Benefactor – euergetes – a person who provides important help or assistance; used to describe gods, heroes, & kings.

In the world, “greatness” is measured by authority, influence, and control.

1 Cor. 1:26-27: *For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.*

**III. Service Elevated – what they should be after (v. 26)**

<sup>26</sup> *“But it is not this way for you; rather, the one who is the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like the servant.”*

Servant – diakoneo (deacon) – render assistance or help by performing certain duties; often humble or menial tasks.

“Serves” “Servant” “Service” mentioned > 90 times in the New Testament.

1 Peter 4:10: *As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.*

James 4:17: *So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.*

#### IV. The Servant Demonstrated – how they should go about getting it (v. 27)

*<sup>27</sup> “For who is greater, the one who reclines at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at the table? But I am among you as the one who serves.”*

Jesus both demands and demonstrates service for the disciples.

John 13:3-5, 12-17: *<sup>3</sup> Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, <sup>4</sup> rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. <sup>5</sup> Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him... <sup>12</sup> When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, “Do you understand what I have done to you? <sup>13</sup> You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. <sup>14</sup> If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup> For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. <sup>16</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. <sup>17</sup> If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.*

Phil. 2:5-8: *Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

#### Conclusion

To be great means to follow Jesus and become one who serves.

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. Consider the last few church services you've attended. Have you shown up with the intention of serving others?
2. As you spend time with other members of the church, would the way the church serves one another stand out to a first-time nonbelieving visitor?
3. What are strengths or giftings the Lord has given you? How do you use those in the context of the church?
4. Read Philippians 2:1-9. How does it compare to your current experience? How does it contrast?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 12. Spend time in prayer asking God to show you more ways you may use your gifts to bless His people.