

Un-Natural

Mark 10:35-45

OUTLINE -

I. Definitions:

- A. *Natural*—Anything we do without having to think about it.
- B. *Unnatural*—Waking up at 5:00am and jumping into an ice bath.
 - 1. God wants us to do something that is completely unnatural.
 - 2. But we can't do it.
 - 3. Jesus tells us and shows us the way to do it.

II. The situation.

- A. The disciples want Jesus to do whatever they ask of Him (Mark 10:35).
 - 1. Jesus does not jump to fulfill their request.
 - a. The difference between Mark 10:35 and John 14:13-14.
-- a matter of aligned wills
 - 2. The disciples desire to be great in Jesus's kingdom:
 - a. A position of privilege and greatness: to sit at His right and left on the throne.
 - 3. Jesus's plan: to be great in His kingdom... you must be a servant (unnatural).
 - a. Titus 2:14

III. The point.

- A. Not to get you to become servants but to center your lives on the gospel of Jesus Christ.
 - 1. True servanthood comes from a heart transformation.
- B. The difference between followers of Christ and transformed Christians.
 - 1. Followers of Christ—still operating on the “natural”.
 - 2. Transformed Christians—operating on the unnatural (A transformed heart).
- C. The problem isn't desiring greatness, the problem is selfish desires.

IV. True greatness.

A. Servanthood.

1. Jesus is NOT saying the way to the top is service, He is saying THAT IT IS WHEN YOU SERVE, YOU'RE AT THE TOP!
 - a. You are not doing servant things to get something, you are doing them because that is WHO you are!

V. What Jesus did for us.

A. JESUS CAME TO SERVE US (*I did not come to be served but to serve*).

1. Our misunderstanding.
 - a. This is *only* for an example for us to follow.
2. The vital truth.
 - a. ***We must embrace the truth that Jesus came to serve us which empowers us (through His work for us on the cross—the ultimate service) to become able to be true servants.***
 - b. This does not mean—we tell Jesus what to do (misunderstanding of John 14:13).
 - c. “Radical discipleship” is impossible unless we embrace what Jesus did for us on the cross.
 - d. We need Christ to be His servant, Christ does not need us to be His servant.

-- God does not need our help.

God is not served by human hands, as though He needed ANYTHING, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things.. Acts 17:25

THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO OR NOT DO THAT WILL PREVENT GOD FROM MAKING HIS NAME GREAT AMONG THE NATIONS!

VI. What we must do.

- A. Trust Jesus to serve you!
 1. Jesus must transform us within, you can't do it by working for Him!
 2. The Christian life is moment by moment being served by Jesus Christ!
 - a. When you pray, walk, live—Jesus is serving you!

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Mark 10:35-45

SERMON NOTES

Please turn to Mark 10:35-45

I have a pretty simple message this morning.. at least for my part... but if you grasp what God's word is saying... it is quite profound... I want to talk about 1. *What is natural*...2. *What is not-natural*... and **God wants us to do something that is completely not-natural**... 3. The problem is WE can't do it... 4. Jesus tells us and shows us the way to do it.

What is “natural and what is not natural”?

These words really don't need defining... but for the sake of understanding the flow of thought... **Natural is anything we do without thinking about it**... Natural is not something we learn...it is in us... we don't have to call it up...it's already there...

Natural is waking up without the aid of an alarm clock and feeling like not going to work on Monday morning... we don't have to learn that....we don't have to talk ourselves into that.

Natural is not waking up at 5:00 in the morning and running five miles...what's really not natural is to wake up at 5:00 and jump into an ice bath!.... I don't care who you are... that is not natural!... it might be good for us... it might be the best option... but it certainly is not natural.

Natural is wanting to eat whatever you want at the time... and as much as you want... we had to learn healthy eating... and healthy portions.... That is un-natural...

Natural is desiring to rise to the top...of an organization... of a business... whatever... it is natural to not desire to be at the bottom... rather be at the top of the ladder.

It is natural enjoy getting recognition for the good things you've done...

It may also be natural for us to not want to do what it takes to get to the top... un-natural to work eighty hours a week to get to the top....

We don't have to work at what is natural... what comes natural... and yet we all know that everything natural is not the best option... so many of the great things in life happen because we defeat the natural with the unnatural.....

Waking up in the morning thinking... *I can't wait to serve people today*...is not natural.... It isn't natural to thrive on placing other people's interest over yours... we really do like being first in line... that's natural... but it is not natural for us to thrive on serving others.... Doing good for others...all the time... not natural...

It might be natural for us to think... *I need to volunteer some of my time to help the needy...* to think something like... *I need to be more of a servant...* so I think I will volunteer for two hours a week doing something at church...

That might be natural... because maybe you heard some persuasive preacher preach a convicting sermon on Mark 10:35-45... Jesus telling His disciples to serve... and now you *feel guilty*... see.. that is natural.... So you are now *thinking* about being more serving... donate a couple hours a week...

But for us this morning is something so completely un-natural... so off the charts un-natural... it is a directive from Jesus to us.... And it is completely impossible for us to do it... it is that unnatural... it is to not just be *more* serving... not just donate a couple hours a week.... To doing some charity.... But *to be* by definition... *full time servants!*

Jesus tells us we must do it.... But we cannot do it.... Then He shows us how it can be done...

Read Mark 10:35-45

I love this passage because it is so us... that is...the disciples are...we are so like them... it would be easy for us to criticize especially James and John for such worldliness... for such self-seeking attitudes... yet... they simply represent what is “natural”..... normal.

It is completely natural for us to want the privileged position... the incredible benefits.... being at the front of the class... It is completely natural to want to be at the head table...

If we are completely honest.... *we in our private way would like Jesus to do whatever we ask of Him just like James and John does*...by the way, what strikes me is how easy those words came off their lips speaking to Jesus... **Teacher we want you to do for us WHATEVER we ask of you.**

[Remember the passage/verse we looked at two weeks ago?... John 14:13-14?...Jesus said to His disciples **Ask anything in My name and I will do it**...Jesus said that...I think the discussion in Mark is in Jesus’s mind...if I have my timeline right... just a week or so after this request from James and John in Mark...we get the amazing promise from Jesus to do what is asked of Him here.]

Notice Jesus here in Mark doesn’t jump on it and say **you got it guys! I’ll do anything you want for you**....The difference (my opinion) between then and here is that what James and John are asking for here in Mark was not in alignment with the desires and will of Jesus....

Plus Jesus knows much, much, more than these two...these two think that Jesus is ready for His ultimate glory... being King of His kingdom... in their minds.... *HE is about to set up His throne and they want to be at His right and left on the throne.*

True, Jesus is just a few days from being elevated in His glory... but His glory isn’t setting up His kingdom on earth...yet.... One commentator makes this point by way of a question: *Where*

does Jesus Christ most show forth the glory of God's justice and love? It's on the cross. Here's the irony. When Jesus is at the moment of this great glory, when he's on the cross, there will be somebody on the right and on the left, but they'll be people being crucified. Jesus says to John and James, "You have no idea what you're asking."

In John... Jesus said **ask anything in My name....and I will do it...ask anything that is lined up with My will and My plan... and I will make sure you have everything you need.]**

So... a week or so before the Upper Room discourse... James and John ask Jesus to do whatever they ask of Him...I can't imagine saying that to Jesus...or anyone for that matter! [even my wife!...] but there's in the disciple's words to Jesus...something natural in that...

...Extremely honest and forthright...not a command... not a request... but something in the middle!...it's gutsy, self-centered and revealing, transparent "command"...we might not say it like that ... but that's what we want!...it's *natural*.

That is completely natural... that's why we pray for new cars boats and houses and jobs.....so... what is completely un-natural in this passage is Jesus telling them ***that to be great in His kingdom... you need to be a servant.***

Let me show you un-natural:

There's a verse in Titus (2:14)... Paul's words that says... **[our great Savior Jesus Christ] who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed redeem us from our sin and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession... ZEALOUS FOR GOOD DEEDS...**

In other words... the great privileges we receive from a life centered on the gospel...[A life receiving the benefits from the cross...forgiven from our sins] making us into a people who are free from guilt... anger... free from the world's expectations... and all those incredible freedoms that result... come into our lives....

NOT JUST TO GIVE US A THRILL...OR TO BE A PRIVILEGED PEOPLE.... BUT TO TURN US INTO A DYNAMIC COMMUNITY THAT GOES INTO THE WORLD WITH A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT MINDSET...THAN WHAT WE HAD BEFORE...

The design is... before we have Christ... we are natural... self-centered... when we receive Christ... we are to be unnatural!... becoming more and more self-less and centered on Jesus and His desires.

We're servants!... we have a **zealousness** for good deeds.... for serving others!... and yet... we fall short of that don't we? [**Zealousness** = showing great energy or enthusiasm in pursuit of a cause or objective.]...IMPORTANT!...

I'm not trying to convince you this morning that IF you are a Christian you should be doing stuff here in this building..... It's not like this is my perfect opportunity to get some things done here around the church...IN fact... I'm only asking you to consider one thing... that is... **to center your life on the gospel of Jesus Christ...**

Because if you do that... your life will become more and more unnatural.... We don't need a church full of people who find their meaning in doing projects for the church... doing projects anywhere to **feel good about themselves**..... we need people who find their meaning in Christ!

A life centered on the gospel will be a transformed life... it is no longer "*I should do this*"... "*I should be doing that*"... there will be an actual transformation INSIDE of you... by the Holy Spirit that will change you into the person God wants you to be..... **you will desire to be a servant**... that is what the transformation is!

By the way... this is all about each one of us personally... this has nothing to do with being concerned about the person next to you... you worry about yourself... Jesus is not looking for people to guilt OTHERS to do His work... where others are at in this is really none of our business... we have enough to deal with dealing with ourselves!

True servanthood comes from a heart transformation empowered and driven by the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

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The disciples were not yet transformed Christians... they were followers of Christ...[there's a difference!...expound?] they had laid down their nets and their occupations were put on hold to follow Jesus... but they hadn't been transformed yet... they were just ordinary natural men responding in natural ways...

Back up a little from Mark 10...we get some insight... In chapter nine... Jesus and the disciples had been walking together... on their way to Capernaum... I imagine it was like this... Jesus was walking far in front of the disciples... and the disciples were quietly talking amongst themselves....

Verse 33... Jesus confronts them... ***What were you guys talking about on the way here?***...Jesus of course knew exactly what they were talking about....

If you think about all they had experienced while traveling and living with Christ... amazing things...saw Jesus feed five thousand people then another four thousand.... People raised from the dead... demons cast out of people... deaf people able to hear again.

Three of them even got to see Jesus transformed to His glory on the mountaintop... amazing things these twelve experienced... so it really is no wonder that while they were traveling to Capernaum... that they would be talking among themselves all these things... and then they realize:

This is really becoming something!... I mean we really are onto something with Jesus!... all that they understood in their Jewish understanding of the coming Messiah that would create a new kingdom was forming right in front of their eyes... and they are all getting pretty excited... no wonder they are arguing about which one of them will be the greatest in the kingdom!

So Jesus sits them down and gives them a verse... **Mark 9:35**

35 And sitting down, He called the twelve and *said to them, “If anyone wants to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all.”

If you follow Me... you must serve.... EVERYBODY... this goes to show you just because Jesus told them so didn't mean they got it... because what we just read in chapter ten was the opposite...

Guys have you noticed every time we go into a town... there are people waiting for us... we are getting very popular!... this is getting bigger not smaller... this is a “thing” “thing”! And you know what guys?... I think I'm going to be really big in the kingdom!...

They went back and forth... even after Jesus gives them a lesson about the first and last thing... The problem STILL exists in chapter ten!... They want to be first.... They want to be the greatest.... Jesus tells them

10:43 whoever wishes to be great among you shall become your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be slave of all.

Now get this.... He doesn't rebuke the disciples for wanting to be first... catch that?...we sometimes miss that... He doesn't say to them... *He guys... stop wanting to be first.... Stop wanting to be great!*... doesn't say that!... He doesn't say *you guys have a lot of nerve.... Let someone else be successful!... go back to your corner!*

Interesting... But I couldn't find any place in scripture that condemns greatness or being successful!... we are only warned about going about all that in the wrong way!... In fact... I don't think any of us lack the desire to be good at something.... Successful at things... and even have a desire to be recognized for it!... **all of us have that built in us**... nothing wrong with that!

We all have it ingrained in us to desire being recognized for doing something great or good, being successful... Having humility doesn't mean that you don't desire being successful and even great... greatness and success can be great things... God put that desire in us... but we think that means... something else... GREATNES... making a lot of money or having some big resume of worldly accomplishments.

The problem isn't desiring greatness, the problem is selfish desires...

So Jesus gives them some instructions on HOW TO BE GREAT... He says *your minds are put on backwards! you think it is about standing on top of something... If you want to be first....*

Be last!.... be servant to all! That's the way.... Just the reverse of what you thought!...Now here is this morning's message... (doesn't mean I'm about finished) but this is vital

Important!... Jesus is NOT saying the way to the top is service... He is not saying that if you serve... you will eventually make it to the top...this is VITAL for us to understand...He's not saying start as a ditch digger...and work yourself up the service ladder to crane operator finally becoming CEO with a key to the executive bathroom!

GET THIS...

HE IS SAYING THAT IT IS WHEN YOU SERVE... THAT IS THE TOP!!! ...You chose a life of serving others... YOU'VE REACHED THE TOP!... being a servant is the top in Christ kingdom!...*when you stoop to serve one another... you have greatness in My Kingdom*... And that kind of greatness is where you will have the greatest satisfaction in life!

This is so nuanced... you know what this means?... **you are not doing servant things to get something!....** you are doing them because that is WHO you are! Jesus says, *don't go serving to get somewhere...If I serve... if I go out and do good things in the name of Jesus THEN _____*. There is no THEN!.... **BE A SERVANT... not USE SERVANTHOOD FOR YOUR OWN BENEFIT... your own good outcome.** ***Serving others is not a means to an end***

But that isn't natural.... And you can't do it!

There's a lot of great stuff in the verses between 35 and 45... but I want to dwell on verse 45... because I think this is the bottom line... this is how Jesus shows us and tells us how this can be done...by the greatest personal example... how we can be full time servants of Jesus Christ.

Read Verse 45

Jesus gave Himself as a ransom... that's the gospel.....that's what Jesus did for us as He died upon that cross.... He paid the complete price to set us free from sin's slavery...if you have any questions about that see me.

The truth is... if you center your life on that truth... the good news of Jesus Christ... as a result... we will think radically different about serving others....much different than the world thinks about serving others..... Because our lives are truly transformed by the gospel...

But let's not miss what I think is the main point of this passage... for sure the main point of verse 45... **JESUS CAME TO SERVE US**... this seems so simple... those of you who read your Bible know that Jesus said this often... **I did not come to be served but to serve....** *But perhaps you took it the way I have for so many years...*

I took this as Jesus telling us... **look at what I do... now go do the same... go fill a basin full of water grab a towel and start washing feet....** And yes... that is true!.... He did give us an example to follow... that is only part of the meaning here...

When Harrison was reading the foot washing account in John... did you catch verse 8 of chapter 13?....Jesus was ready to wash Peter's feet.... What did Peter say?... **You will never wash my feet!...**what did Jesus say?... **If I do not wash your feet you have no part of Me.....**

The word used for "served" and "serve"... Is the Greek word (*diakoneo*) we get the word "deacon"... and we have an idea of what a deacon is... it is literally one who waits on tables... to wait on... to offer service to...

So this is Jesus saying...*not just do what I do*.... But... **I want to wait on you!**....I want to serve you!... THIS IS NOT JESUS SAYING... I WANT YOU TO SERVE ME!... instead this is Jesus saying... I WANT TO SERVE YOU!...in fact.... I HAVE TO SERVE YOU...

Jesus grabbed the towel and basin to serve the disciples!....then as an example for them to follow... we miss the Jesus serving us part...JESUS CAME TO EARTH NOT JUST TO BE AN EXAMPLE FOR US TO FOLLOW...BUT TO SERVE US....THIS is vital to our Christian lives!

We [I] look at being a Christian as being A SERVANT TO CHRIST...we're not really good at that but that is what we think.... now... hold on to that... I'll deal with that in a minute,... but get this.... THE **WHOLE POINT OF MARK 10:45 IS NOT TO ENCOURAGE YOU TO SERVE JESUS!**...that's *part* of the point.

The point of Mark 10:45 is to get you to be served by Jesus!!!... to let Him serve you... how different that is to all other religious leaders.... Who come on the scene and say... *serve me*.. this religious leader says.... *I want to... let me...*[in fact...*I have to serve you...if you want to be a part of My kingdom!*]

I am here to be your slave... I am here to work for you...we think of ourselves as serving Him... not Him serving us... what does this mean?

I did not come to be served but to serve... he is telling His disciples then.... And all His disciples today... that He is our servant... this means... HE IS OUR SERVANT...HE IS YOUR SERVANT...

Yes... we have to be careful with this... because this doesn't mean:

We tell Jesus what to do.

He's is not our servant in that way... but close.... James and John were trying to get Him to be that type of servant... **Teacher... we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you**... we don't order Jesus around...

However it is not far from that truth!.... remember what Jesus did say [2 weeks ago]?... **ask Me for anything in My name.... and I will give it to you**...John 14.....

John 15... **If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask WHATEVER you wish, and it will be done for you...** sounds a lot like that kind of servant!... *ask anything!*...what Jesus does do is that He gives us EVERYTHING we need... to do His work... His will.

Now listen closely... this is I think the key to unlocking the Christian life in all its power and beauty.... It is how to truly set your life onto the gospel... having your life centered on the good news of Jesus Christ...

Jesus had just finished calling James and John... His disciples to live radically different than the rest of the world... He just finished asking them to become full time servants.... Not just volunteers for a couple hours a week.... HE HAS CALLED THEM TO BE RADICALLY UN-NATURAL... **THEN HE TELLS THEM TO LET HIM SERVE THEM.**

Get this... Jesus just revealed that the answer to living radically different.... The answer to having your life centered on the gospel... *is NOT for you to serve ME..... but to LET ME SERVE YOU!*

In other words... to do what Jesus is asking them to do... radical discipleship.... Is absolutely IMPOSSIBLE without them asking Him to give them what they need!... they can't do it!... there is no way they can look the world in the face and refuse to participate in all that is natural...those enticing things.... and do the supernatural.... Without submitting to the servanthood of Jesus Christ!

Without letting Jesus serve them.... You and I cannot survive the American lifestyle.... All the World's values and passions....opportunities... All of the comforts and privileges...and enticements... and systems .. to live the life that Jesus has called us to live.... The radical lifestyle of servanthood WITHOUT JESUS BECOMING OUR SERVANT....

Jesus' call to radical obedience is to be served by Him!

By now some of you are thinking... but Dan... there are some places in the Bible where it talks about being servants of God... servants of Jesus.... Yes there are... All over Paul's writings... Romans 1:1 I **Paul, a bond slave of Jesus Christ.....** Titus 1:1... **Paul a bond servant of Jesus Christ....**

So... in that sense... we are Jesus' servants... a bond-slave is one who does always and only the will of his master.... But in this sense.... The will of the master is to be served by Him!...and the only way to do the will of the Master is to accept Him as YOUR servant...

So yes... Jesus is to be our servant.... But we are also to be His servant... but here's the main difference between the two.... **we need Him to be our servant..... HE DOES NOT NEED US TO BE HIS....**

Jesus doesn't need our help!...and whether or not we like to admit it... that is what is usually in our heads when it comes to thinking ourselves as Jesus' servants!... we think about how we are

Jesus' workers.... And we are helping Him carry out the work of the gospel...and if we don't get on it... the gospel will die... Jesus NEEDS our help!

I'm always getting stuff sent to me.... Or I hear it at some of the conferences I've been to... come on pastors... YOU HAVE TO GET WITH IT...or the church in America is doomed...I just watched a podcast : *Seven New Trends for the church in 2024*... suggesting if you don't hop on these new trends... the church will die.

You have to present yourself a certain way to appeal to people... you have to put more money in your advertising budget... you have to polish up your worship team...you need younger people as elders and in leadership to stay in tune with the culture....

If it means hiring atheist musicians to have great "worship music" do whatever it takes.... great performance is key...Be more persuasive... more relevant... use more videos... don't ever preach about the wrath of God...keep your sermons less than 30 minutes...Or the church will die!

Jesus said in Matthew....***I'll take care of building the church thank you...it WILL be successful... if the church in America dies.... It will not be because you didn't pump enough funds into the production fund...or that you weren't persuasive enough... it will be because you turned your back on My gospel!...YOU DID NOT ACCEPT JESUS AS YOUR SERVANT.... I will build My church and the gates of Hades will not overpower it...***

[Jesus doesn't NEED our help!... HE NEEDS US TO NEED HIS HELP...A.W. Tozer wrote these great words:

God Needs No Support

Almighty God, just because He is almighty, needs no support. The picture of a nervous, ingratiating God fawning over men to win their favor is not a pleasant one; yet if we look at the popular conception of God, that is precisely what we see. Twentieth century Christianity has put God on charity. So lofty is our opinion of ourselves that we find it quite easy, to say He needs us...we think we are necessary to God. But the truth is that God is not greater for our being, nor would He be less if we did not exist. That we do exist is altogether of God's free determination, not by our desert nor by divine necessity.

Probably the hardest thought of all for our natural egotism to entertain is that God does not need our help. We commonly represent Him as a busy, eager, somewhat frustrated Father hurrying about seeking help to carry out His benevolent plan to bring peace and salvation to the world; Too many missionary appeals are based upon this fancied frustration of Almighty God. An effective speaker can easily excite pity in his hearers, not only for the heathen but for the God who has tried so hard and so long to save them and has failed for want of support. I fear that thousands of young persons enter Christian service from no higher motive than to help deliver God from the embarrassing situation His love has gotten Him into and His limited abilities seem

unable to get Him out of. Add to this a certain degree of commendable idealism and a fair amount of compassion for the underprivileged, and you have the true drive behind much Christian activity today.]

Acts 17:25 God...is not served by human hands, as though He needed ANYTHING, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things...

We need God.... He doesn't need us!

Is God ever hungry in such a way that we can satisfy His hunger pains?...Is God at times so exhausted after a day's work that somehow we can help Him out a little?... God is Almighty and needs no support...

We read the Great Commission.... Which directs us to go into all the world and preach the gospel... and somehow we think it will all fail if we don't!... that God needs us to do that... He directs us to do that because **WE NEED TO DO THAT!**

THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO OR NOT DO THAT WILL PREVENT GOD FROM MAKING HIS NAME GREAT AMONG THE NATIONS!

He does not need us.... We need him...That's the point of the gospel... **we need Jesus to serve us...so...**

What does it mean then for us to be servants?....AFTER we accept Christ's servanthood to us... we submit to Jesus' authority... that Jesus reigns over us... our sovereign king and ruler and Lord... and we submit our lives to Him!

Because the Almightyall sovereign creator of the universe.... Has come TO SERVE YOU!... doesn't that take your breath away?...when you really think about it!....GOD COMING TO SERVE US!....NOT TO BE SERVED BY US!

So... how does this look in our lives?.... how do we respond to this truth?...

TRUST JESUS TO SERVE YOU! Christianity is not a religion that says SERVE GOD AND BE SAVED.... Christianity is a religion that says God served you... He died on the cross for you... and now you can be saved!

The point of the gospel is STOP TRYING TO SERVE YOURSELF AND GOD TO BE SAVED!...stop trying to serve God and stop and admit that you need to be served by Him!...you cannot save yourself... you cannot get rid of your sin...you can't be the person God wants you to be... you can't be the servant... . HE HAS TO SERVE YOU.... HE HAS TO TRANSFORM YOU FROM WITHIN.

You will not become a servant like Jesus wants you to be through your own effort... you must be transformed by Him... you must let Him serve you.

In this we are so like newborn babies... I remember vividly going through all three baby experiences of my three daughters..... seems so not long ago!... I remember bringing them home from the hospital... newborns diapers are different than 6 month year old diapers... feeding them is completely a mother thing when they are babies.... The mother has to do it!

Newborn babies are the most helpless.... Dependent creatures on the planet... I can't remember one time that in the middle of the night that any one of the three newborns SERVED US... in fact... not once did any one of the three serve either one of us even once!

The reality is.... If any one of them tried to serve us... if any one of them resisted our serving them... they would not have survived.... They each were completely dependent upon us... I don't think this picture was far from Jesus mind when He said earlier in chapter 10 whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will not enter at all...

Because the picture is.... No matter how skilled you are.... No matter how gifted you are... no matter how much you know... no matter how strong you are... YOU NEED HIM TO SURVIVE...

I can't do it.... I need you to serve me!... The Christian life isn't coming to Christ and get our salvation and then grow up and then do it all on our own.... But that is what we so often try to do!... we rely on our stuff!

The Christian life is moment by moment being served by Jesus Christ!

When you pray... Jesus is serving you!

When you walk... Jesus is the lamp at your feet... guiding you!

At this very moment... if you are hearing His word... JESUS IS SERVING YOU RIGHT NOW!... it never stops.... The entire Christian life is Jesus serving you!

That doesn't mean we just sit back and let Him just do everything... the point is... that Jesus serving us.... Enables our obedience to Him!.... the only way we can be a people of servants is through being served by Jesus Christ.

The only way we can naturally do the unnatural is through Jesus Christ!

