

Selfless

The Heart of a Servant

July 15, 2018

John 13:1-17 It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love... Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you... Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

Who is a Servant?

✓ Doulos: bondservant.

Mark 9:35 Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all."

Principle: Lifetime commitment.

Romans 1:1 Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle...

✓ Diakonos: deacon.

Matthew 20:26-28 Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Principle: Focused on the needs of others.

✓ Huperetes: under-rower.

Acts 26:16 "Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen and will see of me."

Principle: Magnify Jesus, not me.

Key Thought: A servant is someone who makes a lifetime commitment to serve people's needs in such a way that magnifies Jesus, not me.

The Heart of a Servant

1. A servant puts service over status.

Philippians 2:3-4 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

2. A servant puts character over comfort.

Luke 10:30-37 (Message) "There was once a man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. On the way he was attacked by robbers. They took his clothes, beat him up, and went off leaving him half-dead. Luckily, a priest was on his way down the same road, but when he saw him he angled across to the other side. Then a Levite religious man showed up; he also avoided the

injured man. A Samaritan traveling the road came on him. When he saw the man's condition, his heart went out to him. He gave him first aid, disinfecting and bandaging his wounds. Then he lifted him onto his donkey, led him to an inn, and made him comfortable. In the morning he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take good care of him. If it costs any more, put it on my bill—I'll pay you on my way back.' 'What do you think? Which of the three became a neighbor to the man attacked by robbers?' 'The one who treated him kindly,' the religion scholar responded. Jesus said, 'Go and do the same.'

Dr. Martin Luther King "If I stop and help this man, what will happen to me?" "If I don't stop and help this man, what will happen to him?"

3. A servant puts we over me.

Acts 2:44-45 All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.

4. A servant puts worship over wealth.

Matthew 25:31-40 But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left. "Then the King will say to those on

his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.' 37 "Then these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?' 40 "And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, **when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!**'

Walk-away: The greatest life lived means living as a servant.

Closing Confession Together: Because God has called me to serve my generation, I will value worship over wealth, we over me, character over comfort, service over status, and Gods purposes over possessions, positions, popularity, and pleasure. To my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I say: "However, whenever, wherever, and whatever, you ask me to do, my answer in advance is yes! Wherever you lead, and whatever the cost, I'm ready anytime, anywhere. I want to be used by you in such a way that on that final day, I'll hear You say, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. Come on in, and let the eternal party begin!'"