

**Mark 9:35-39**

Serving is the manifestation of love.

*“Love finds pleasure in serving.” - Nancy Tanis*

*“Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”” (Mark 10:42–45, NIV)*

*“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.” (Galatians 6:9–10, NIV)*

**What are attributes of a Biblical Servant?**

1. **Aaron and Hur** Exodus 17:11-13 *“As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. When Moses’ hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset. So, Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword*

**Attributes:** Supported the mission; they didn’t have to lead it. Served the prophet Moses. Selfless behind the scenes; reliability. Faithful when the going got rough.

**Result:** Israel defeated the Amalekites

2. **The Widow of Zarephath** – 1 Kings 17 *““As surely as the LORD your God lives,” she replied, “I don’t have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die.”” (1 Kings 17:12, NIV)*

**Attributes:** Compassion, hospitality, and generosity in the midst of her own need. Faith and sacrifice.

**Result:** She and her son did not die but were provided for by God. The ministry of the prophet continued.

3. **Shiphrah and Puah** - Exodus 1:15-21 *“The midwives, however, feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do; they let the boys live.”* (Exodus 1:17, NIV)

**Attributes:** Spirit led courage to save Moses. Bravery, integrity.

**Result:** Israel was delivered because of the leadership of Moses. Millions of people were freed.

4. **Ebed-Melech** - *“Then the king commanded Ebed-Melek the Cushite, “Take thirty men from here with you and lift Jeremiah the prophet out of the cistern before he dies.””* (Jeremiah 38:10, NIV)

**Attributes:** Empathy, compassion, justice, bravery.

**Result:** The prophet was spared. The King protected him. His ministry continued.

5. **Barzillai the Gileadite** - *“When David came to Mahanaim, Shobi son of Nahash from Rabbah of the Ammonites, and Makir son of Ammiel from Lo Debar, and Barzillai the Gileadite from Rogelim brought bedding and bowls and articles of pottery. They also brought wheat and barley, flour and roasted grain, beans and lentils, honey and curds, sheep, and cheese from cows’ milk for David and his people to eat. For they said, “The people have become exhausted and hungry and thirsty in the wilderness.””* (2 Samuel 17:27–29, NIV)

**Attributes:** Generous, provided for those in crises, care, sacrifice, humility, selflessness.

**Result:** David’s continued existence, securing the line of David to Christ.

**Attributes:** Generosity, bravery, effort, work ethic, kindness, compassion, integrity, fear of God, character, empathy, justice, sacrifice, care, sense of mission, selfless.

*Servants use what they have, not what they don’t have.*

*Servants are full of joy when they serve.*

*Servants are teachable.*

*Servants take risks.*

*Servants are selfless.*

*Servants are generous.*

*Servants don’t need the credit or attention.*

**Answer these Three Questions:**

- *What have I done for Jesus?*
- *What am I doing for Jesus?*
- *What ought I do for Jesus?*