

I AM A CHURCH MEMBER (PART 3)

I Will Not Let My Church Be About My Preferences & Desires

I. The CALL To SERVE Others.

John 13:1-17

"Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that His hour was come that He should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved His own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end.

² And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him; ³ Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He was come from God, and went to God;

⁴ He riseth from supper, and laid aside His garments; and took a towel, and girded Himself.

⁵ After that He poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith He was girded.

⁶ Then cometh He to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto Him, Lord, dost Thou wash my feet?

⁷ Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter.

⁸ Peter saith unto Him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not,

thou hast no part with Me. ⁹ Simon Peter saith unto Him, Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head. ¹⁰ Jesus saith to him, He that is washed

needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all. ¹¹ For He knew who should betray Him; therefore said He,

Ye are not all clean.

¹² So after He had washed their feet, and had taken His garments, and was set down again, He said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you? ¹³ Ye call Me Master and Lord:

and ye say well; for so I am. ¹⁴ If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have given you an example,

that ye should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his Lord; neither he that is sent

greater than He that sent him. ¹⁷ If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them."

EPHESIANS 3:7 (EXB)

*By God's special gift of grace given to me through His power...
I became a servant to tell that Good News [of this Gospel].*

 **MATTHEW 20:20-28**

“Then came to Him the mother of Zebedees children with her sons, worshipping Him, and desiring a certain thing of Him.²¹ And He said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto Him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on Thy right hand, and the other on the left, in Thy kingdom.²² But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto Him, We are able.²³ And He saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of My cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on My right hand, and on My left, is not Mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of My Father.²⁴ And when the ten heard it, they were moved with indignation against the two brethren.²⁵ But Jesus called them unto Him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them.²⁶ But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister;²⁷ And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:²⁸ Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

II. Serving Others Should PUSH Us Outside The WALLS Of The Church.

 **MATTHEW 28:19-20 (NLT)**

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

TEN DOMINANT BEHAVIOR PATTERNS OF CHURCHES THAT ARE INWARD FOCUSED:

1. Worship Wars.
2. Prolonged Minutia Meetings.
3. Facility Focus.
4. Program Driven.
5. Inwardly Focused Budget.
6. Inordinate Demands For Pastoral Care.
7. Attitudes of Entitlement.
8. Greater Concern About Change Than The Gospel.
9. Anger and Hostility.
10. Evangelistic Apathy.

III. Cultivating The MIND Of CHRIST.

 **PHILIPPIANS 2:3-9 (NLT):**

“Don’t be selfish; don’t try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves.⁴ Don’t look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.⁵ You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. ⁶ Though He was God, He did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. ⁷ Instead, He gave up His divine privileges; He took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When He appeared in human form, ⁸ He humbled Himself in obedience to God and died a criminal’s death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore, God elevated Him to the place of highest honor and gave Him the name above all other names...”

SO WHAT DID JESUS DO?

1. He did not consider EQUALITY with God as something to be used for His own ADVANTAGE.
2. He EMPTIED Himself by assuming the form of a SLAVE.
3. He HUMBLED Himself.
4. He became OBEDIENT to the point of DEATH – even to DEATH on a CROSS.”

The Third Pledge

I am a church member

**I will not let my church be about my preferences and desire.
That is self-serving. I am a member in this church to serve others and to serve Christ.
My Savior went to a cross for me. I can deal with any inconveniences
and matters that just aren’t my preference or style.**

Print Name

Date