

**What it means to Follow Jesus Pt. 3**  
**Saved People Serve People**  
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When I HAVE to do something, I think about what it is going to cost me.

When I HAVE to do something, my sole focus is ME.

The more stressed out I am, the more selfish I become.

**2 Corinthians 5:16-20 NLT** So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view. At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now! 17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a **new person**. The old life is gone; a **new life** has begun! 18 And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of **reconciling people** to him. 19 For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. 20 So we are **Christ's ambassadors**; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!"

Ambassadors are servants.

**Mark 10:32** They were now on the way up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them. The disciples were filled with **awe**, and the people following behind were overwhelmed with **fear**. Taking the twelve disciples aside, Jesus once more began to describe everything that was about to happen to him.

**Mark 10:33** "Listen," he said, "we're going up to Jerusalem, where the Son of Man[h] will be **betrayed** to the leading priests and the teachers of religious law. They will sentence him to **die** and hand him over to the Romans.[i] 34 They will mock him, spit on him, flog him with a whip, and **kill** him, but after three days he will **rise again**."

**Mark 10:35** Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came over and spoke to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to **do us** a favor."

**Mark 10:35b** "Teacher," they said, "we want you to **do us** a favor." 36 "What is your request?" he asked. 37 They replied, "When you sit on your glorious throne, we want to sit in places of honor next to you, one on your right and the other on your left."

**Mark 10:38-40** But Jesus said to them, “You don’t know what you are asking! Are you able to drink from the bitter cup of suffering I am about to drink? Are you able to be baptized with the baptism of suffering I must be baptized with?”<sup>39</sup> “Oh yes,” they replied, “we are able!” Then Jesus told them, “You will indeed drink from my bitter cup and be baptized with my baptism of suffering. **40** But I have no right to say who will sit on my right or my left. God has prepared those places for the ones he has chosen.”

**Mark 10:41** When the ten other disciples heard what James and John had asked, they were **indignant**.

**Mark 10:42-45** Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. **43** But among you it will be **different**. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your **servant**, **44** and whoever wants to be first among you must be the slave of **everyone** else. **45** For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to **serve** others and to **give his life** as a ransom for many.”

Ambassadors are servants.

Ambassadors manage a mission and a message that is not their own.

The old life is selfish

The old life is entitled

The old life is lazy

The old life is all about consumption

Real power comes, not from consumption, but from compassion.

**Bottom Line: Jesus saves. We serve.**

It’s never convenient to serve!

**Mark 10:46** Then they reached Jericho, and as Jesus and his disciples left town, a large crowd followed him. A blind beggar named Bartimaeus (son of Timaeus) was sitting beside the road. **47** When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus of Nazareth was nearby, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”<sup>48</sup> “Be quiet!” many of the people yelled at him. But he only shouted louder, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” **49** When Jesus **heard him**, he stopped and said, “Tell him to come here.” So they called the blind man. “Cheer up,” they said. “Come on, he’s calling you!” **50** Bartimaeus threw aside his coat, jumped up, and

came to Jesus. 51 “What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked. “My Rabbi,[j]” the blind man said, “I want to see!” 52 And Jesus said to him, “Go, for your faith has healed you.” Instantly the man could see, and he followed Jesus down the road.

Compassion cures inconvenience.

The new life is kind, compassionate, and concerned about one another.

How do we live this out?

1. Ask God to break your heart for the things that break his heart.
2. Listen to Jesus.
3. Take a simple step toward service.

**Big Idea: Jesus saves. We serve.**