

Matthew 12:15-21

“The Kingdom & God’s Servant”

Jesus always does the right thing. In this text we see the word “justice” repeated. It means, to do what is right. What can we learn from Jesus about doing right, and how should we follow His example? Let's learn from Jesus how to do what is right.

Discussion Qs

1. When you contemplate Jesus what do you think of or feel?
2. How does knowing God’s love motivate you to serve Him?
3. In what way do you see yourself as God’s servant, and what do you sense is your mission?
4. How have you felt empowered by God’s Spirit to declare your faith (God’s righteousness)?
5. How does Jesus give you hope?
6. Review Jesus’ example of: servant, Spirit, self-control, supportive, and source of hope. Where do you feel strong and where would you most like to grow?

Jesus is our King and the Calling Realm

When Jesus is your king you discover and use your gifts to build the body of Christ. Are you regularly serving in a church (or Para-church) ministry?

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subject: Jesus: Servant & Savior
objective: trust Jesus Christ

I. Jesus is healer (v. 15)

A. Jesus never changes (Hebrews 13:8)

II. Jesus is Savior (vv. 16-17)

A. Jesus fulfilled prophecy about the coming Messiah

1. born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14)
2. born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)
3. crucified (Psalm 22:16-18)
4. suffered in silence (Isaiah 53:5-7)

III. Jesus is trustworthy (vv. 18-21)

A. His position

1. servant
2. chosen
3. beloved
4. filled with the Holy Spirit

B. His purpose

1. to proclaim right & wrong & coming judgment

C. His personality

1. humble
2. gentle

D. His promise

1. salvation for all who trust in Him

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Intro. Jesus always does the right thing. In this text we see the word “justice” repeated. It means, to do what is right. What can we learn from Jesus about doing right [Matt. 11:28-30]? How should we follow His example? Today we will learn from Jesus how to do what is right.

Subject: Behold God’s Servant Jesus [our example]

Object: Do what’s right

Context [15-17]: But when Jesus knew *it*, He withdrew from there. And great multitudes followed Him, and He healed them all. ¹⁶ Yet He warned them not to make Him known, ¹⁷ that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:

Jesus withdrew from the Pharisees re conflict over Sabbath work, and great multitudes followed Him and Jesus healed them all [15]. Yet Jesus told them not to tell anyone [16].

Purpose: to fulfill Isaiah’s prophecy [Is. 42:1-4].

What did God through the Prophet Isaiah want us to know about the Messiah [1st Coming]?

A. Servant [18]

Behold! My Servant whom I have chosen, My Beloved in whom My soul is well pleased!

1. Behold Jesus: Stop and consider, contemplate, emulate, imitate

When you contemplate Jesus what do you think of or feel?

2. Jesus is God’s chosen servant: My Servant whom I have chosen: uniquely chosen (called) to His mission as Messiah to be the perfect example, and then the perfect sacrifice for man’s sin.

a. A servant is to willingly places the mission of His master before his own desires or agenda

i. “God’s servant” is an endearing accolade (e.g. Moses, David, Job)

3. Jesus is beloved by God and pleases God: Jesus is loved by God, and pleases the Father, because he is submitted to Him – Jesus does the Father’s will

a. At Jesus’ baptism and the Mount of Transfiguration [Mt. 3,17] the Father affirms Jesus’ identity – beloved Son, who please the Father, who we should learn from

How does knowing God’s love motivate you to serve Him?

B. Spirit-led [18] I will put My Spirit upon Him, and He will declare justice to the Gentiles.

1. Jesus is anointed with God’s Spirit: I will put My Spirit upon Him

a. Prophecy fulfilled at Jesus’ baptism [Matt.3]

2. Jesus declares God’s righteousness: and He will declare justice to the Gentiles

a. Jesus’ ministry to Gentiles (non-Jews) foretold, and confirms God’s desire to reconcile Jews, and Gentiles (I.e. the world). Gentiles represent those outside of a covenant relationship with God.

i. At Pentecost, the Spirit of God came upon believers as foretold by prophet Joel [Joel 2], and the gospel (how to be right with God) was proclaimed with boldness

ii. How has the Spirit of God empowered you to declare God’s righteousness?

C. Self-controlled [19]

He will not quarrel nor cry out, nor will anyone hear His voice in the streets.

1. Jesus is gentle: He will not quarrel nor cry out: terms used re barking dogs & brawling drunks

a. Jesus woos us with God's love. He warns us of consequences of rejecting God and neglecting God because He loves us. He is gentle and insightful -> peace [Cf. Hitler – inciting: stirs up violence]

b. Matt. 11:28-30 – Gentle and lowly of heart (humble). Jesus' only autobiographical statement

c. **The servant of the Lord must not quarrel, but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient ... [2 Tim. 2:24]**

2. Jesus is humble: nor will anyone hear His voice in the streets.

D. Supportive [20] A bruised reed He will not break, and smoking flax He will not quench

1. Jesus seeks to restore those that are weak and weary: A bruised reed He will not break:

a. Reeds were used for flutes, pens, and measuring rods. They were cheap and disposable. If bent and unusable just throw it away and grab another. Cf. Jesus seeks to strengthen and restore

2. Jesus seeks to restore those that are struggling: smoking flax He will not quench,

a. Flax used for wicks in lamps. Smoldering flax is an irritant and offers no light. Generally, quench it and replace. Cf. Jesus seeks to encourage + restore. Jesus is gracious despite our struggles of faith.

i. It takes time, patience and love to restore someone who is bruised, weak and weary

ii. Jesus fans a spark of faith to a flame.

E. Source of Hope [20-21] Hope comforts and motivates

1. Jesus will ensure righteousness triumphs: till He sends forth justice to victory [20]

a. Jesus will be victorious. The cross and the grave cannot stop Jesus' resurrection and ultimate triumph re the gospel, and His power as Lord and Savior. [Matt. 16:8; 28:18-20]

i. Jesus will not fail nor be discouraged, till He has established justice in the earth [Is. 42:4]

2. Jesus is the source of hope for all people: in His name Gentiles will trust [21] [Rom. 15:12]

a. The gospel is available to Jew and Gentile alike