

"Serving One Another in Love"

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

Series Theme Verses: Romans 12:1-2 MSG

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. **You'll be changed from the inside out.** Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

1. Serving aligns our hearts with God's purpose.

"What do you want me to do for you?" Mark 10:36/51

a. Serving is our calling.

I am your example; keep doing what I do. John 13:15 VOICE

Serve one another humbly in love. Galatians 5:13

b. Serving increases our faith.

When the master of ceremonies tasted the water that was now wine, not knowing where it had come from (though, of course, the servants knew), he called the bridegroom over. John 2:9

2. The path to greatness is in serving.

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. Mark 10:43

a. Humility

He made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! Philippians 2:7-8

b. Love

We love because he first loved us. 1 John 4:19

3. Servants do hard things.

Jesus stopped and said, "Call him. So they called to the blind man, "Cheer up! On your feet! He's calling you." Mark 10:49

a. Serving in love requires listening well.

When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Mark 10:47

b. Serving in love involves disruption.

Jesus stopped in his tracks. "Call him over." Mark 10:49 MSG

4. Serving one another brings joy.

Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:2

a. Seek out opportunities to serve.

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 10:45

"We don't serve God to gain His acceptance; we are accepted, so we serve God. We don't follow Him to be loved; we are loved, so we follow Him."
- Neil T. Anderson

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