



“Designed to Serve” Pastor Notes Week 5

Scripture Matthew 20:20-28 (LB)

My fourth purpose in life is to serve others.

Jesus said:

Mat. 20:28 (LB) “Your attitude must be like My own, for I the Messiah, did not come to be served, but to serve....”

Mark 8:35 (LB) “35 If you insist on saving your life, you will lose it. Only those who throw away their lives for my sake and for the sake of the Good News will ever know what it means to really live.”

What does it take to learn to serve like Jesus?

1. Serving like Jesus means I’m available.

Matthew 20:30-32 (NIV) “Two blind men were sitting by the roadside, and when they heard that Jesus was going by, they shouted, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!” The crowd rebuked them and told them to be quiet, but they shouted all the louder, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!” Jesus STOPPED and called them. “What do you want me to do for you?”

Proverbs 3:28 (GNT) “Never tell your neighbors to wait until tomorrow if you can help them now.”

Proverbs 3:28 (MSG) “Never walk away from someone who deserves help; your hand is God’s hand for that person.”

John Wesley’s servant motto:

“Do all the good you can by all the means you can by all the ways you can in all the places you can and at all the times you can to all the people you can as long as you ever can.”

Phil 2:4 (ESV) “Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.”

Eccl. 11:4 (LB) “If you wait for perfect conditions, you’ll never get anything done”.

What does it take to learn to serve like Jesus?

2. Right Motives

Matt. 6:1 (NLT) “Watch out! Don’t do your good deeds publicly, to be admired by others, for you will lose the reward from your Father in heaven.

• Self-promotion and servant hood don’t mix.

1 Corinthians 15:58 (NCV) “So my dear brothers and sisters, stand strong. Do not let anything move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your work in the Lord is never wasted.”

• Don’t mistake anonymous with insignificant.

Hebrews 6:10 (NIV) “God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.”





“Designed to Serve” Small Group Discussion Week 5

Please read Matthew 20:26-28 (MSG)

Context: The Mother of James and John ask Jesus if her sons can be seated in a place of high honor or elevated to greatness in His kingdom.

Jesus responds, “You’ve observed how godless rulers throw their weight around, how quickly a little power goes to their heads. It’s not going to be that way with you. Whoever wants to be great must become a servant. Whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave. That is what the Son of Man has done: He came to serve, not be served—and then to give away his life in exchange for the many who are held hostage.”

Q. How are greatness and service connected?

Q. What is the role of a slave?

Please read Colossians 1:15-18 (NIV) “The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.”

Q. How does it impact your life to know that the Jesus described in Colossians, came to serve you?

Q. What does it mean to give your life away in service?

Discuss Mark 8:35 (NLT): "If you try to keep your life for yourself, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will find true life."

Discuss Eph. 2:10 (NIV): "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Q. If God has created you for service, how has He prepared you to serve?

Discuss: 1 Peter 4:10 (NLT) “10 God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.”

Discuss this statement: Each person has been created with a least one gift designed to use for service.

Q. How are you a gifted person?

Q. How do your abilities contribute to your ability to serve?

Q. How do your experiences contribute to your ability to serve?

Q. How does your personality contribute to your ability to serve?

Q. Why do you think people are reluctant to employ their gifts in service to God?

Discuss this statement: Two things happen when I discover the ministry I’ve been shaped for, fruitfulness and significance.

Pray David’s Prayer together "Teach me to serve you with complete devotion." Ps. 86:11 (GN)

Gifts for service: Romans 12:6-8 / I Cor. 12:1-11 / Eph. 4:11-16 / I Peter 4:9-11

