



**Serving**  
**August 16, 2020**

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Icebreaker: When you need to call customer service, what do you think makes for great service?

We are studying foundational truths of the Bible that tell us who we are in Christ. Knowing our identity in Him gives us a firm foundation to build our lives on in crazy times.

***“When we know who we are, we can act rather than react.” —Pastor Rob O’Neal***

We’ve seen some of the implications of being belonging to God: having a relationship with Him, persevering, loving, and forgiving. This week we’ll look at the importance of serving in Christ’s name.

## **Jesus, Our Model**

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Jesus is our model for everything, including serving others.

**Read Mark 10:42-45** and notice the radical principles of serving that Jesus taught in this passage:

- No lording authority over people.
- Becoming great means becoming a servant.
- Want to be “first”? Then become a slave.
- Follow Jesus’ example of serving.

## **What does serving one another look like?**

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[Q] According to the following passages, what are some ways that Jesus served people? What, specifically, are the attitudes conveyed in these passages? How do these attitudes make a difference when serving someone?

John 13:4-17

Philippians 2:5-8

**Read Mark 9:33-35.**

[Q] According to Jesus, what should we do with our desire for greatness?

[Q] What does our culture often say is the path to greatness?

[Q] Read this quote from Tony Evans. Would you add or subtract anything from it?

To serve is to focus on others and act for their benefit in the name of Christ. Service begins with a humble attitude and includes actively looking out for the interests of others. You become a true servant when you come alongside others and help them improve spiritually, physically, emotionally, or circumstantially. You serve when your actions make someone else's life better.

Tony Evans, *Horizontal Jesus*

**Read Galatians 5:13:**

*For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.*

[Q] In Galatians 5, Paul has strong words for those who would want the Galatian believers to rely on compliance with the Law for their salvation. What warning does he offer to people who lean the other way and think their freedom in Christ means they have license to do whatever they want? What is the opportunity and privilege of this freedom?

[Q] Why do you think Paul says we should serve one another “through love”? Is there any *other* way to serve someone? In what ways is it possible to serve selfishly or with a hard heart?

*If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.*  
1 Corinthians 13:3

[Q] How does the “new normal” tempt us to hunker down, think mainly of ourselves, or become complainers?

**Apply**

[Q] Serving is not always easy! What is your attitude like as you serve others? Considering the Scriptures that we've studied, what are some ways you can maintain a joyful attitude?

[Q] How will you serve the following people this coming week?

- Your Spouse \_\_\_\_\_
- Your Children \_\_\_\_\_
- Your Friends \_\_\_\_\_
- Your Coworkers or Neighbors \_\_\_\_\_
- Your Community \_\_\_\_\_