

Jesus Says ... Serve

1. ¹³ Now people were bringing little children to him for him to touch, but the disciples scolded those who brought them. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me and do not try to stop them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ¹⁵ I tell you the truth, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will never enter it." ¹⁶ After he took the children in his arms, he placed his hands on them and blessed them. (Mk 10:13-16,NET)

2. ¹ At that time the disciples came to Jesus saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" ² He called a child, had him stand among them [taking him in his arms (Mk 9:36)], ³ and said, "I tell you the truth, unless you turn around and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven! ⁴ Whoever then humbles himself like this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵ And whoever welcomes a child like this in my name welcomes me [and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me, for the one who is least among you all is the one who is great. (Lk 9:48)]. ... ¹⁰ See that you do not disdain one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven. (Matt 18:1-5,10,NET)

3. ²⁵ I praise [thank] you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent, and revealed them to little children. ²⁶ Yes, Father, for this was your gracious will. (Matt 11:25-26[Lk 10:21],NET)

4. ⁷ Would any one of you say to your slave who comes in from the field after plowing or shepherding sheep, 'Come at once and sit down for a meal'? ⁸ Won't the master instead say to him, 'Get my dinner ready, and make yourself ready to serve me while I eat and drink. Then you may eat and drink'? ⁹ He won't thank the slave because he did what he was told, will he? ¹⁰ So you too, when you have done everything you were commanded to do, should say, 'We are slaves undeserving of special praise; we have only done what was our duty.'" (Lk 17:7-10, NET)

5. ³⁵ Get dressed for service and keep your lamps burning; ³⁶ be like people waiting for their master to come back from the wedding celebration, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom their master finds alert when he returns! I tell you the truth, he will dress himself to serve, have them take their place at the table, and will come and wait on them! ³⁸ Even if he comes in the second or third watch of the night and finds them alert, blessed are those slaves! (Lk 12:35-38,NET)

- ⁴¹ Then Peter said, "Lord, are you telling this parable for us or for everyone?" ⁴² The Lord replied, "Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom the master puts in charge of his household servants, to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? ⁴³ Blessed is that slave whom his master finds at work when he returns. ⁴⁴ I tell you the truth, the master will put him in charge of all his possessions. ⁴⁵ But if that slave should say to himself, 'My master is delayed in returning,' and he begins to beat the other slaves, both men and women, and to eat, drink, and get drunk, ⁴⁶ then the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not foresee, and will cut him in two, and assign him a place with the unfaithful. ⁴⁷ That servant who knew his master's will but did not get ready or do what his master asked will receive a severe beating. ⁴⁸ But the one who did not know his master's will and did things worthy of punishment will receive a light beating. From everyone who has been given much, much will be required, and from the one who has been entrusted with much, even more will be asked. (Lk 12:35-48,NET)

6. ²⁴ A dispute also started among them over which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. ²⁵ So Jesus said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those in authority over them are called 'benefactors.' ²⁶ Not so with you; instead the one who is greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like the one who serves. [⁴³ Whoever wants to be great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first among you must be the slave of all. (Mk 10:43-44)] ²⁷ For who is greater, the one who is seated at the table, or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is seated at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. [⁴⁵ 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. (Mk 10:45)] (Lk 22:24-27)
7. ¹⁴ If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you too ought to wash one another's feet. ... ¹⁷ If you understand these things, you will be blessed if you do them. (Jn 13:14,17,NET)
8. ⁸ You are not to be called 'Rabbi,' for you have one Teacher and you are all brothers. ⁹ And call no one your 'father' on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. ¹⁰ Nor are you to be called 'teacher,' for you have one teacher, the Christ. ¹¹ The greatest among you will be your servant. (Matt 23:8-11,NET)
9. ⁸ When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, because a person more distinguished than you may have been invited by your host. ⁹ So the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this man your place.' Then, ashamed, you will begin to move to the least important place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and take the least important place, so that when your host approaches he will say to you, 'Friend, move up here to a better place.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who share the meal with you. ¹¹ For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted. (Lk 14:8-11,NET)
- ¹² When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. ¹³ When you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴ and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous. (Lk 14:12-14,NIV)
10. ²⁷ I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. [⁴⁵ so that you may be like your Father in heaven, since he causes the sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. (Matt 5:45)].
- [³⁹ Do not resist the evildoer (Matt 5:39)] ²⁹ To the person who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other as well, and from the person who takes away your coat, do not withhold your tunic either. [⁴¹ And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two. (Matt 5:41)] ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your possessions back from the person who takes them away [do not reject the one who wants to borrow from you. (Matt 5:42)] ³¹ Treat others in the same way that you would want them to treat you.
- ³² If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same. ³⁴ And if you lend to those from whom you hope to be repaid, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, so that they may be repaid in full. ³⁵ But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to ungrateful and evil people. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. (Lk 6:27-36,NET)

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Identity #1: Become _____

What does this look like?

Identity #2: Become _____

What does this look like?

What are some ways that Jesus says becoming like this will change how we live?

What is the pattern that Jesus seems to be describing, the way God intends to grow us?

#1

#2

#3

What can keep us from growing?