



**First Baptist Church Exists to
Make Disciples of Jesus Christ By...**

Truthfully **TEACHING** God's Word

Sacrificially **LOVING** One Another

Selflessly SERVING Others

Faithfully **ENGAGING** Our World

"For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake."-Second Corinthians 4:5

Making disciples requires a servant's attitude that resists selfish motives while giving our lives so others may know Jesus.

Selflessly Serving Others, Makes Us a Church Where People...

(35-41)

In their warped understanding of the coming kingdom, James and John wanted to sit at the "left" and "right" hand of Jesus ruling over his kingdom (10:37).

Jesus countered the disciples by asking if they were willing to "drink" and be "baptized" by the fatal trials he was about to endure (10:38; Ps. 42:7; 69:1; Isa. 51:17, 22).

The fatal cup Jesus would drink and the fiery baptism he would undergo was his crucifixion as he became the quintessential suffering servant (Isa. 52:13-53:12).

The other ten disciples become "indignant" because of their jealousy to reign and rule themselves believing James and John beat them to the opportunity (41).

How to Resist Selfish Motives...

1) "For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ."-Galatians 1:10

Disciples must check their own hearts to see whether their motives and desires align with Jesus' kingdom mission of making disciples.

2) "But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice."-James 3:14-16

Jesus' kingdom is not subject to personal jealousies and ambitions but is ultimately about fulfilling the mission of making disciples.

(42-45)

The "rulers of the Gentiles" were know for the harsh brutality of pillaging, exploiting and killing the Jewish people (42).

"Servant" is the New Testament word for a slave and was used by disciples of Jesus to show their subservience to him (Rms. 1:1; Gal. 1:10; Col. 4:12; 2 Tim. 2:24; 2 Pet. 1:1; Rev. 1:1).

To be "great" in Jesus' kingdom you must serve as a "slave of all" as you "give" your "life" to others in Jesus' service (10:45).

"Ransom" was used of buying someone's freedom out of slavery and came to be used of the Messiah who would give his life for the sins of others (Lev. 25:51-52; Isa. 53:10-12).

At the heart of service is the Gospel truth that Jesus gave his life a ransom for many at the cross as he "emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant..."(Phil. 2:7).

How to Serve as Jesus Served-

1) "You are not your own, you were bought [ransomed] for a price..."-1 Corinthians 6:19b-20a

Disciples "must be slaves of all" who realize their lives belong to Jesus (Mtt. 20:26; 25:21; Jn. 13:16; Rms. 6:18, 22; 2 Cor. 4:5).

2) "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."-1 Peter 4:10

Every disciple is a servant who possesses unique gifts that are to be used in service to others so they may experience grace in its vast array of expressions.

(46-52)

The blind mind was "rebuked" and told to "be silent" because those around him did not understand that Jesus came to selflessly serve others (48).

The question-"What do you want me to do for you?"-is asked by Jesus so the man himself will reflect on what he needs from Jesus (51).

"Rabbi, let me recover my sight" was a cry of faith because he believed Jesus to be God's Messiah and "followed him on the way" as a disciple (52).

Why You Should Seek Out Service Opportunities-

1) "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ."-Colossians 3:23-24

Disciples serve because ultimately they know they are servants under the authority of their Lord who has commanded them to serve as he served.

2) "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."- Galatians 5:13

Disciples serve because they know Jesus has transformed their lives freeing them from their sins so others can be set free by Jesus.

Challenge-