

Serve Others



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Have you ever wanted to be great? Most people think that greatness is found in being popular, or talented, or having expensive things. Some think that greatness is being able to boss other people around and make them do what you want them to do. But none of these really make a person great.

In Mark chapter 10, the disciples are arguing among themselves about who is the greatest. Jesus tells them, "If you want to be truly great you must be the servant of all." True greatness is serving others for the glory of God. Of course, Jesus himself gives us an example of what it means to serve. If Jesus (the Son of Man) came to serve others, then we should serve others too. Jesus wants us to follow his example.

What does it mean to serve others? It means doing good to them - helping, sharing, being kind (Galatians 6:9-10). It means thinking of others first, putting their needs and desires ahead of your own (Philippians 2:3-4). It means giving something that belongs to you - your time, hard work, maybe even your possessions - in order to help someone else (Luke 10:25-37). And it means doing these things with joy (Philippians 2:14).

You might say, "That sounds hard!" You're right; it is. We can only serve others because Jesus first served us. Jesus gave his life (as a ransom) to pay for our sins. As Christians, Jesus sets us free from selfishness. He changes our hearts so we want to live to please him. Jesus also empowers us to serve others (John 15:5).

A great place to start serving is in your home. Ask your mom or dad, "Is there something I can do around the house to serve you?" Then ask Jesus to help you to serve them. This is true greatness.