

Jesus Came to Serve

Word

Scripture Reference

Mark 10:35-45

Discussion Questions

1. How does the world pressure people to pursue status, power, or influence?
2. Read Mark 10:35-45. The main point of this passage is that Jesus came to serve, leaving us an example to follow. Jesus talked to his disciples about what was coming—that He would suffer and die and rise again. After each of these predictions, the disciples did something that showed they did not really understand what it meant for Jesus to be the Christ and what the implications were for them as His followers. This passage teaches three principles for those who are Christ-followers:
 - a. **Followers of Christ must not live to serve themselves.** As followers of Jesus, we must take the focus off of ourselves. We cannot live a self-centered life. The disciples James and John assumed that if Jesus were the Messiah, He would set up His kingdom when He comes to Jerusalem, and they wanted to have the most important positions in that kingdom. What did they ask Jesus to do for them (v. 37)? Discuss what their request revealed about their character. What did Jesus mean by His answer on verses 38-40? What kind of unreasonable requests do people ask God? How does God protect you from your irrational or unwise requests?
 - b. **Followers of Christ must live to serve others and meet their needs.** As a follower of Jesus, you must care about the needs of others (v. 42-44). You are under the obligation to obey Jesus, and He calls on you to live for others and not for yourselves. For Jesus, that is the definition of greatness: it is

not by how many people serve you, but by how many you serve. Followers of Jesus must look out for the needs of others. Discuss how you can serve God by serving others in your home, at work, at school, or in your church. How can you care enough to make a difference in this broken world, to be light in a dark world? What should be your attitude in order to be able to serve joyfully? Are you a recipient of other people's service? How do you show your appreciation?

- c. **Followers of Christ must live to serve others, because that is how Jesus lived (v. 45).** To follow Jesus means to trace your life on His, to let His example determine the course of your life, to take His footprints as the steps for your path. Jesus came to serve and to give His life for others, and you must do the same. That is the example for you to follow. Is this an easy task to follow? Discuss why it is not easy to follow Jesus' example. What is it in your nature that makes it difficult? How do you need your attitude or actions transformed in light of Jesus' instruction about serving?

Walk

Jesus Christ gave His life and conquered death, so that we might find life. He lived a perfect life, so that we might know how we should live our lives. By following His pattern we know how to live a life of eternal significance. Jesus is worth more than anything in the world. You will hand your life over to Him as your Lord and King, because He is worth it. Do you live your life according to His example and teaching, because that is what it means to have real life—a life of eternal significance? How can you embrace Christ's pattern of living as your own? Think of a specific act of service you could do this week for someone who is not a member of your family or circle of friends.

Worship & Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Your only begotten Son Jesus Christ to save me from my sin. He came to rule over Your kingdom forever, yet in humility He did not come to be served, but to serve. What a great sacrifice He did for me by giving up His life so that I could find life through His death and resurrection. In response as His follower, please help me not to be self-serving, but to serve others and meet their needs because that is how Christ lived. In Jesus' name. Amen.