

Leaders Who Serve

Matthew 20:20-27

Pastor Dave Bennett

Introduction

We believe that the church is called to equip people to “lead like Jesus” in the home, in the congregation, in the community, in the marketplace and in the world. We believe that our world stands in desperate need of servant leaders, people of integrity, committed to excellence and teamwork, in every sphere of life. We desire to engage in continuous leadership development within the church, and to raise up leaders who will be respected and sought for their wisdom and their skills by those outside the church as well.

I. The World’s Way: Self-Seeking

- A. “Me first”
 - Matthew 19:28
- B. Political maneuvering
- C. Overconfidence
- D. Competition
- E. Abuse of authority

II. Jesus’ Way: Servanthood

- A. A new standard of greatness
 - Colossians 3:17
- B. A new role
 - diakonos = servant
 - doulos = slave
- C. A new model
 - Isaiah 53:4-6; 1 Peter 1:18-20

Daily Bible Readings

June 15 – 20

At the beginning of each day this week, pray, “Lord, make me a servant today.”

Follow-Throughs

- Monday Proverbs 6:16-19**
Express in your own words the seven things that are so repugnant to God. How is each of them related to self-centeredness? Confess to the Lord any areas where these behaviors have infected your life.
- Tuesday I Corinthians 10:1-13**
What basis for humility do we find in these verses? What provision has God made for us to handle temptation? What temptations are you facing right now? Ask God to help you identify his “way of escape.”
- Wednesday I Corinthians 4:1-5**
To whom did Paul see himself as primarily accountable? How did this help him deal with criticism? Go over the schedule of this day with the Lord, asking him to help you to be a faithful steward in each task.
- Thursday II Corinthians 4:1-12**
What were the implications of servanthood for the apostle Paul? What hope did Paul find in the midst of his sufferings? Let the Lord encourage you through these verses.

Warm-Ups

- Friday Philippians 2:1-11**
In what ways does humility contribute to unity? What were some of the outcomes of the humility demonstrated by Jesus? In what circumstances this week have you found it hardest to put others’ interests ahead of your own? Thank Jesus for his willingness to become obedient to the cross for your sake.
- Saturday Philippians 2:12-18**
In what ways do grumbling and complaining impact negatively our ability to shine like lights for Jesus? Is there anything you have been grumbling or complaining about this week? Have you found yourself resenting the need to pour yourself out in meeting the needs of those around you? Confess the sinfulness of your attitudes. Ask the Lord for a fresh infilling of his Holy Spirit.
- Sunday Philippians 2:19-30**
In what ways do Timothy and Epaphroditus illustrate the priorities and attitudes of a servant leader? Ask the Lord to give you a genuine interest in the welfare of the people you interact with today, and this week.