



SERVING

"Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time, and always start with the person nearest you." – Mother Teresa

Jesus measured greatness in terms of service not status, authority, wealth or fame. Throughout his life he showed us an attitude of serving others, teaching us the greatest in the kingdom of God is the servant of all.

God has given us all spiritual gifts and natural gifting's which we can use to serve others. Yet one of the great things about servanthood is that it requires no special talents or gifts to do the dishes, bring in firewood and sweep the floors. All it requires is a willing and humble heart. Servanthood is part of the character of God.

Jesus came to serve.

Mark 10:45

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."

To the Glory of God

Johann Sebastian Bach was born into the musical family of Bachs in 1685. By the age of ten, both of his parents were dead. Early in his friction-filled life, young Johann determined he would write music ... music for the glory of God ... and this he did. Most of Bach's works are explicitly Biblical. Albert Schweitzer even referred to him as the fifth evangelist, thus comparing him to Matthew, Mark, Luke and John! At age 17 Bach became the organist at the church; soon thereafter he was given charge of the entire music ministry. During his ministry in Weimar, Germany he wrote a new cantata every month ... EVERY MONTH! And during one three-year period he wrote, conducted, orchestrated, and performed (with

his choir and orchestra) a new cantata every week!

No one had any idea what a mark Bach would leave. His legacy lives on some 300 years later. You can hear his music at will.

At the beginning of every authentic manuscript one will find the letters "J.J." This stands for Jesu Java (Jesus help me). At the end of each original manuscript you will find the letters "S.D.G." This stands for Soli Deo Gloria (to the glory of God).

Bach is a reminder that one who gives his life to Jesus and serves Him does not count it a loss.

Check out other scriptures about Jesus coming to serve.

Matthew 20:28
Philippians 2:6-8

Jesus had a clear view of serving and it goes against what the world teaches

Matthew 20:25-28
But Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first among you must become your slave. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Check out these other scriptures on this view of serving...

Matthew 23:11
Mark 10:44-45
Luke 22:27
John 12:26
John 13:1-17

Following Jesus amazing example we are encouraged to serve one another

Galatians 5:13
For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters.

But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.

Check out these scriptures and be encouraged about serving...

Acts 20:35
Romans 12:10-11
Philippians 2:1-4
Colossians 3:23-24
Titus 3:14
Hebrews 10:24
1 Peter 4:10

There are lots of stories of people serving God in the Bible – here's just a few...

Moses – Found in the book of Exodus

Joshua – Found in the book Joshua

Samuel – Found in 1 Samuel chapters 1-25

Gideon – Found in Judges 6-8

Esther – Found in the book Esther

Daniel – Found in the book Daniel

Stephen – Found in Acts 6-7

Paul – Found in the book of Acts from Chapter 9

Seven men chosen to serve – Acts 6:1-7

Tabitha – Acts 9:36

Lydia – Acts 16:14-15

Joshua 24:15

... "But as for me and my family, we will serve the LORD."

Think of a time when someone has served you well (big or small)
If Jesus came to serve others, and encourages us to do the same, how will that change what you do?