

How To Be A G. R. E. A. T. Servant

Matthew 20:17-28 (ESV)

17 And as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside, and on the way he said to them,

18 "See, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death
19 and deliver him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified, and he will be raised on the third day."

20 Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to him with her sons, and kneeling before him she asked him for something.

21 And he said to her, "What do you want?" She said to him, "Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom."

22 Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?" They said to him, "We are able."

23 He said to them, "You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father."

24 And when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers.

25 But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.

26 It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your SERVANT,

27 and whoever would be first among you must be your SLAVE,

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

In vs. 26, the word "servant" (diakonos) same word translated "minister"

In vs. 27, the "slave" (doulos) means "bond servant or bond slave".

*The bond servant was indebted to the master and served out of both obligation and gratefulness that he had been chosen and purchased to keep him out of prison!

*The second kind of bond servant was one who after he had served his obligated time, continued to serve because he loved his Master! Not out of obligation, but love!

Deuteronomy 15:16-17 (ESV)

16 But if he says to you, 'I will not go out from you,' because he loves you and your household, since he is well-off with you,

17 then you shall take an awl, and put it through his ear into the door, and he shall be your slave forever. And to your female slave you shall do the same.

1. G - Give up any self-inspired agenda!

1 Greatness

2 Service

3 Servant's heart

Are you serving for the RECOGNITION or the PAYOFF?

Matthew 5:16 (ESV) - In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

2. R- Remain humble!

The greatest test of being a servant is how we respond when we are treated like one!!!

Mark 10:44 (ESV) - and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all.

James 4:6 (ESV) - But he gives more grace. Therefore, it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

Philippians 2:1-11 (ESV)

1 So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,

2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,
6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,

7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,

10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

3. E – Endure the wait for your reward!

Remember – if you get the handclap of people for what you do, enjoy it because that’s all there is!

4. A- All will benefit from your service!

The Problem we have is that He said, “ALL”!

5. T - Take joy in serving!

Greatness in God is not measured by how many people serve YOU...

But in how many people YOU serve... WITH A GLAD HEART!

“minister” = “servant”

1 Corinthians 9:19 (ESV) - For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them.

2 Corinthians 12:15 (ESV) - I will most gladly spend and be spent for your souls. If I love you more, am I to be loved less?

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