

What Does the Bible Say About Serving Others?

The world tells a man to look out for himself. Christ said the opposite. He came into a world bent on serving itself and showed His followers a kingdom where the greatest are the servants and the way up is the way down. Serving others is not a Christian extra for the unusually generous. It is the shape of the life of every disciple. Let us see what the Scriptures say.

Christ Came to Serve

The Lord of glory took the form of a servant, and He said so plainly. *"For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many"* ([Mark 10:45](#)). Think about that for a moment. The One with every right to be served by every creature in heaven and earth came instead to serve, and gave His life to do it. If our Master served, no servant of His has any ground to stand on his dignity and refuse to serve.

The Greatest Is the Servant

Jesus turned the world's idea of greatness upside down. *"But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant"* ([Matthew 23:11](#)). And again, *"whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister: and whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all"* ([Mark 10:43-44](#)). The world measures greatness by how many people serve you. The kingdom measures it by how many people you serve. There is no greater man in the eyes of God than the one who quietly spends his life lifting others.

The Washing of the Feet

The night before He died, the Lord did something His disciples never forgot. He, the Master, washed their feet, the lowest job in the house. Then He said, *"If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you"* ([John 13:14-15](#)). He did not do this to start a religious ritual. He did it to leave an unmistakable picture of how His people are to treat one another. No task is beneath the servant of Christ. If He could kneel before a man and wash his dirty feet, we can do whatever needs doing, however small, however unseen.

By Love Serve One Another

Service is love with its sleeves rolled up. Paul wrote, *"by love serve one another"* ([Galatians 5:13](#)), and gave the inward attitude that produces it: *"Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others"* ([Philippians 2:3-4](#)). And practically, *"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ"* ([Galatians 6:2](#)). Real Christian service is not done for credit or applause. It is done because the heart has learned to esteem others higher than self and to carry weight that is not its own.

To the Least of These

The Lord made a stunning promise about who we are really serving when we serve His own. *"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me"* ([Matthew 25:40](#)). The cup of cold water given to a tired brother, the visit to the sick, the help slipped quietly to a struggling family, none of it is small to Him. The Hebrew writer assured Christians that *"God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister"* ([Hebrews 6:10](#)). And when the work feels long and unnoticed, the same word stands: *"let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not"* ([Galatians 6:9](#)). So serve quietly, from love, in the small things and the unseen ones. The Lord forgets none of it, and in serving the least of His, you serve Him.

Every Scripture reference in this study links to the King James Version. Open it and read for yourself.