

Date: July 12, 2026

Series: Own the Mission: Belong, Become, Be Sent

Title: Servant-Minded versus Self-Serving

Text: Philippians 2:3-11



INTRODUCTION

- The Greatest Commandment, “Love God, Love Others” (Matt 22:37-39).
- Servant-Minded versus Self-Serving, “Love Others, Not Self” (Phil 2:3-4).
- Jesus, the perfect example of selflessness, humility, and love (Phil 2:5-8).

Big Picture Truth #1 – The goal for every Christian is to be Christ-like, and is seen when lived out in humble servanthood! (Phil 2:4-6)

Big Picture Truth #2 – There are many faithful examples from Scripture and even around us today, but the only perfect example is the Lord Jesus Christ! Let us look to Him! (John 13:4-5)

Servant-Minded versus Self-Serving

A. A Good Example, Moses (Exo 32:32)

1) A man of God (likewise, a woman of God) spends time with the LORD. (Exo 32:1a)

“The LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.” (Exo 33:11)

Note: Discipleship works! Who are you spending your time with?

2) Moses defends the glory of God, and Moses displays sacrificial love for others.

(Exo 32:9-32, Matt 22:37-39, Phil 2:3-4)

Note: True servant-leadership does both, leads well and serves, even to the point of sacrifice.

B. A Good Example, Paul (Romans 9:3)

1) The Zeal of Saul the Israelite! “a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge.” (Rom 10:2)

Note: Biblical Zeal motivates us to Biblical Action, which leads to Service!

“Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.” (Rom 12:11)

2) The Love of Paul the Christian! “I myself accursed... for the sake of my brothers” (Rom 9:3)

Note: True Love (Phil 2) produces great sorrow and unceasing anguish for others, even for our enemies! (Rom 9:2)

Note: True servant-leadership does both, leads well and serves, even to the point of sacrifice.

C. The Perfect Example, Jesus (John 13:4-5)

1) Jesus-like servant leadership produces enduring, sacrificial allegiance (John 13:1)

Note: A follower's commitment to Christ is not motivated by convenience but by conviction.
(John 13:1)

2) Jesus, The Servant! "He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel..." (John 13:4-5)

Note: True leadership is not defined by status, but by service;
not by authority asserted, but by humility expressed

Note: True servant-leadership does both, leads well and serves, even to the point of sacrifice.

Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but **emptied** himself, by taking the form of a **servant**, being born in the **likeness of men**. And being found **in human form**, he **humbled** himself by becoming **obedient** to the point of death, **even death on a cross**. (Phil 2:5-8)

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. By Exodus 32, what all has happened to shape the man Moses?
2. What is his attitude towards God? What is his attitude towards the People?
3. By Exodus 32, what all has happened to shape the People of God?
4. What is their attitude towards God? What is their attitude towards Moses?
5. Do you have zeal? What are you most zealous about? Where does your zeal lead you?
6. In The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10), who is "a neighbor"?
7. What are some dangers of a leader who does not serve humbly?
8. Do you know someone who models Christ-like service?

Exo 15:24
Exo 16:2
Exo 16:7
Exo 16:8
Exo 17:2

Tell them! Encourage them! Spend time with them! And follow their example!