

Saved to Serve: How to be Truly Great Notes

Matthew 20:20-28

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Serve with Your _____ (Matthew 20:25-26)

1. It was common practice in the Roman Empire for people to use authority for _____ purposes.
2. Followers of Jesus Christ use their strength to _____ not hurt, to build up not tear down, to make others stronger, not weaker.

Serve with a _____ Heart (Matthew 20:26a)

1. Servants were an important part of the culture during Jesus' time.
2. A servant is defined as a person who is _____ to do something for someone else. It usually is to do what others don't want to do.
3. A volunteer is defined as "someone who _____ offers to undertake a task."
4. Peter Drucker saw volunteerism as essential to the smooth functioning of society, as well as a satisfying way of ensuring that work doesn't _____ your life.
 - His recommendation: Find an organization and a cause you believe in and get to _____!

Serve in the _____ (Matthew 20:27)

1. During Bible times, slaves lived in the shadows.
 - Their job was to make their masters look good.
 - The master was to be seen, to have his name known.
 - Slaves were supposed to be _____. Anonymous.
2. A consistent theme throughout the Bible is that God chooses people who prefer the shadows for _____.
 - Moses – insisted he could not _____. He didn't want to be the guy up front. He suggested Aaron was better for this job.
 - Saul – _____ in the baggage when Samuel wanted to anoint him king of Israel.
 - David – was anointed as the next king but took a job as a _____ to his predecessor, Saul.
 - John the Baptist – insisted he step out of the spotlight and into the shadows. He stepped back to _____ people to Jesus.
 - John the Apostle – insisted he remain anonymous. He always referred to himself as "the other disciple" or "the disciple whom Jesus _____."
 - If you want to be great, give the _____ to Jesus and choose the shadows for yourself.

Serve Like _____ (Matthew 20:28)

1. We should want to be like _____ as Christ followers.
2. Jesus was the most important person in the universe. He became a _____.

Serving _____ (Matthew 20:28)

1. Jesus knows sacrifice better than _____.
2. Greatness through service always has a _____.
 - The cost of _____ – it takes a lot of hours to serve others.
 - The cost of _____ – servants are seldom famous or adequately honored.
 - The cost of _____ – Even the best of servants can be criticized for what they do.

3. Sacrifice is giving up something you have every right to _____.

How Can You Serve?

1. Shape

- S – Spiritual gifts
- H – Heart
- A – Abilities
- P – Personality
- E – Experiences

2. Spiritual gifts

- The Holy Spirit has given each of us certain and specific gifts which are given to us for the purpose of _____ God's church.
- Everyone has at least _____ spiritual gift.
- Examples: leadership, encouragement, evangelism, giving, helping, showing mercy, teaching, etc.

3. Heart

- Represents your _____, hopes, interests, ambitions, dreams, and affections.
- Represents the source of all your _____.
- What are you passionate about?

4. Abilities

- These are the things you are _____ at.

5. Personality

- God _____ your personality and there is no one life you.
- We need _____ personality type in ministry! Silly or serious, outgoing, or reserved, action oriented or thoughtful and reflective.

6. Experience

- The good, the bad, and the ugly can all be used in God's hands to _____ and serve others.
- Some of the most impactful ministry you will be able to do in your life will come from God redeeming your most painful _____.

Conclusion

1. In serving, and becoming great for God, it's often the _____ things that count.

- Serve _____, the way God has shaped you.
- Focus faithfully on the _____ things day in and day out.
- Dave Runyon – "Just share what you love to do. Make small steps. Give the little you have and watch God do a miracle."