

Introduction:

1. The Bible says in Colossians 3:16 “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalm and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” This morning we sang *Servant Song*. This song teaches us a lot about being a servant. The words point us back to the greatest servant of all: Jesus.
2. This morning, we also appointed seven new deacons. The word deacon means *service or to serve*. This is what deacons are to do. Yet, we recognize that being a servant in the Lord’s church is not only for a select few. Everyone should strive to say, *Make Me A Servant*.
3. This evening we are going to sing *Servant Song* again. But this time we will sing one verse at a time. Then we will consider something from that verse which will help us as we strive to be servants in God’s kingdom. As Daniel leads us in this first verse pay close attention to the words.

The Lesson:

I. Make me a servant just like Your Son

- A. Jesus is our example as we strive to be servants.
 1. He dedicated His life to serve others.
 - a. He was born to poor parents, Luke 2:22-24. He never had much in life.
 - b. When He got older He would sacrifice His time to help others, Mark 1:35-37.
 - c. Ultimately, He would sacrifice Himself for the world, Mark 10:45. He allowed Himself to endure pain, agony, humiliation, all for the benefit of others. Jesus was a servant.
 2. He instructed His disciples to be servants too. The night before He died Jesus decided to wash their feet, John 13:5-17. Foot washing was a common practice during those days. It was typically done by a servant. This is where the problem came in for Peter. Jesus was not a servant in the eyes of Peter. This was a job for people lower than Jesus.
 3. But this was what Jesus was trying to teach His apostles, that they needed to be servants. It’s amazing that the day before Jesus would die His apostles had still not learned this lesson.
 4. The point that Jesus wanted to make was that greatness in the kingdom of God would not be about a person’s status but would be about their service.
- B. It should be clear to us that we too need to be like Jesus.
 1. Jesus has blazed the trail when it comes to being a servant. We are not greater than our Savior. Therefore, we need to follow in His footsteps.
 - a. While we may not be able to miraculously heal the sick like Jesus, we can still take the time to visit the sick. This is how we can serve others.
 - b. While we may not be able to feed five thousand, we can still take food to those who are in need. This is how we can serve others.
 - c. While we may not be able to solve everyone’s problems, we can still take the time to listen and comfort those who do have problems. This is how we can serve others.
 2. But why don’t we? Think about that as we sing the next verse of *Servant Song*.

II. Take all my pride

- A. The hurdle that we must overcome is pride.
 1. This is the number one enemy as we strive to be servants.
 2. It certainly was for the apostles. This is why Jesus washed their feet, to rebuke them of their pride. In the shadow of the cross the apostles still struggled with pride, Matthew 20:20-28. They argued about who would be the greatest. God’s church would be in great trouble if the men who were to teach the gospel were filled with pride. Peter would not get a lot of work done if he was trying to compete with John about getting attention.
 3. That’s why Jesus washed their feet. Their pride needed to be destroyed. Jesus would bring them back to earth however after He washed their feet.
 4. After this incident, pride never seemed to be an issue for the apostles. Even when there were opportunities where pride could have crept in, the apostles humbled themselves, Acts 3:11-13. They understood that they were servants in God’s kingdom.
- B. We battle the same issue.

1. We live in a culture where the emphasis is on ourselves instead of others. The message that is often conveyed is that we need to think of “me” first.
2. Terrell Owens, a former wide receiver in the NFL, once said, “I love me some me.” That’s the attitude of many. Sadly, this is the attitude that some disciples have.
3. David told me a story of a man who was asked to help clean the church building with some other members. He responded by saying, “Can’t we hire someone to do that?” This man allowed pride to get in the way. He thought that he was better than the other members who did show up to help clean. His pride blinded him of the fact that he had a pride issue.
4. Brethren, if we are not careful we can elevate ourselves and think that we are better than everyone else. We can tell ourselves that...
 - a. Keeping our schedule is what is most important, and therefore we don’t have time to visit the sick.
 - b. We don’t feel like giving some of our own money to help those in need, because then that takes away something I may want to do with it.
 - c. We have more pressing issues to deal with rather than taking the time to comfort someone in need.
5. But do you remember the words we just sang? *For I would be lowly, humble inside. Giving to others with all that I do.* We must recognize our littleness. We must recognize that we are just like everyone else. We are sinners in need of Jesus. It doesn’t matter our status at work, or the amount of money we may have in the bank. We are all the same.
6. The battle that we must overcome is pride. But how do we do it? Let’s sing the last verse of the song and find out.

III. Filled by your might

- A. Only through the power of Jesus will we be a servant.
 1. The way that we will be filled by His might is through His word, Colossians 3:16.
 2. But how will the word help us?
 - a. First, the word will show us who we really are. Have you ever read something in the Bible and just felt awful? God’s word has a way of humbling us. It brings us down to reality.
 - b. Second, it will show us what to do. It will remind us that we need to be servants.
 3. This is how we will be filled with His might.
- B. I don’t think understanding that we need Jesus and His word is our biggest issue.
 1. The biggest challenge is in the execution. In what way can I be a servant?
 2. David is going to come up and discuss some wonderful opportunities where we can serve and assist one another.

Conclusion:

1. I mentioned Mark 10:45 at the beginning of the lesson. I think it’s fitting to end with the words of Jesus. Let’s follow the example of our Savior as we strive to be servants. With this wonderful opportunity we have a chance to assist one another.
2. Most importantly, we have an opportunity to be like our Savior. Let me share with you one last thing and then the lesson will be yours. In John 13 after Jesus gave His apostles the lesson on being a servant, notice what He said in John 13:17. We know that we must be servants. But there’s a difference in knowing something and actually doing something. Now is the time for us to take action. Let’s be doers of the word and not merely hearers.