

Date: _____



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Meet the God/Man, Jesus Series, Lesson 39

Lesson Title: Jesus – The Servant

Take Home Point: Jesus is the greatest because he is servant to all.

Warm-Up:

Something happens to many people when they get behind the wheel of a car. Given the definition of character as “what a person does when no one is looking,” the anonymity of being in an automobile typically brings out a driver’s true character. What may be a veneer of politeness when face to face with another person is frequently stripped away on city streets and highways. The road rage we hear about is only the extreme example of an attitude that says, “ME FIRST!” More common is a general lack of consideration toward others on the road that betrays a mindset that is anything but servant oriented.

Read: Mark 9:33-37

Observation (What happened?):

What were the disciples arguing about on the road?

According to Jesus, whom are we really serving when we serve others?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Was Jesus angry with his disciples for arguing about who was the greatest? How do you suppose he felt?

Why did Jesus focus on a child as an illustration of those whom the disciples were to serve?

Insight:

Throughout his life, Jesus emphasized living in an attitude of service to others. Not only in this lesson’s reading, but also in places such as Matthew 20:25-28 and 23:11-12, Mark 10:43-45, and John 12:23-26. The most significant passage regarding his own choice of serving others is found in Philippians 2:5-8: “Although he was in the form of God and equal with God, he did not take advantage of this equality. Instead, he emptied himself by taking on the form of a servant...He humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death.” Why is being a servant to others so important? We serve others because Jesus served us. It’s why he came. Our lives of service help point to Jesus as our Lord and a loving Savior to all. We demonstrate God’s compassion, as we are compassionate to others. And a servant attitude is also part of vanquishing our pride that so easily gets in the way of following Jesus.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

What is your standard of greatness for yourself and others? How does it align with the standard Jesus set? Does your standard need to be realigned?

Think of one act of service you can do this week for someone who is not in a position to reciprocate, and then do it.