

Called Servant

Embrace the character and mission of Jesus

Overview

In his earthly ministry, Jesus modeled the life of a servant, and repeatedly called his disciples to live in the same way (**John 13:1-20**). Jesus understood that this way of living was counter-cultural and challenging, but he knew that giving up His life was necessary to accomplish the Father's purposes (**Mark 10:42-45**).

We are called to have the very mind of Jesus. Although he was fully God, Jesus did not try to elevate himself. Instead, he emptied himself, became a servant, and humbled himself to a shameful death (**Philippians 2:1-11**). As disciples of Jesus, we must recognize that unlike Jesus we are only servants to begin with. When we do what God has called us to do, no matter how costly, our response should be "We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty" (**Luke 17:7-10**).

Every disciple of Jesus has been equipped with spiritual gifts for serving others. Different gifts are given to different people, but all gifts are important. Spiritual gifts are empowered by the Holy Spirit and are all expressions of God's grace (**1 Corinthians 12:1-11**). We are called to understand and use our gifts to serve the church, grow God's Kingdom, and bring God glory (**1 Peter 4:10-11**).

Your gifts are central to your calling. Philip's life is a clear example of this truth. He was asked by the church to be a servant to help distribute food to widows in the church. When persecution came, he moved to Samaria and preached the gospel effectively. Later in his life, he was known as Philip the Evangelist and had raised four godly daughters who were in ministry (**Acts 6:5, 8:4-40; 21:7-9**). Philip's openness to serve the church unlocked his gift of evangelism which led him to his calling.

When we take on the attitude of a servant and use our God-given gifts to pour out His love on the world, we will step into the deep calling God has for each of us and walk in the good works that he has prepared for us (**Ephesians 2:1-10**).

Called Servants live and love like Jesus by humbling themselves, using their gifts, and embracing God's unique calling to serve His Kingdom.

Key Scriptures

- Mark 10:42-45
- Luke 17:7-10

- John 13:1-20
- Philip in Acts (6:5, 8:4-40; 21:7-9)
- 1 Corinthians 12:1-11
- Ephesians 2:1-10
- Philippians 2:1-11
- 1 Peter 4:10-11

Essential Life Patterns

- Develop a servant's heart, humility, and character
- Identify spiritual gifts
- Develop a sense of calling and take a next step to explore/live into it
- Serve regularly in the church and community

Resources

Visit <https://thisisfoundry.com/disciplemaker> to see resources for this identity.