

Discuss

The third key to putting the last 15 months behind us: No More Hoarding.

While Jesus was going from town to town teaching about "The Kingdom of God ", and how the rules of God's Kingdom are different from the rules of "the world"; His own disciples began to argue about which one of them was the greatest. Jesus wanted them to understand that serving others is what makes them great, not jockeying for position.

Then they began to argue among themselves about who would be the greatest among them. Jesus told them, "In this world the kings and great men lord it over their people, yet they are called 'friends of the people.' But among you it will be different. Those who are the greatest among you should take the lowest rank, and the leader should be like a servant. Who is more important, the one who sits at the table or the one who serves? The one who sits at the table, of course. But not here! For I am among you as one who serves. ([Luke 22:24-27 NLT](#))

- Do you enjoy serving others? Would you still serve if you knew you would not get credit or recognition?
- Over the last 15 months have you found ways to serve others in your family or community? Would you benefit from making serving a regular part of your schedule?

Before dinner that night, Jesus taught the disciples a lesson about serving others by washing their feet. If anyone should have their feet washed, it should be God Himself in the person of Jesus. He let them know that He was serving them because He is their teacher (greater than them). Then He challenges them to serve each other:

"When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them. ([John 13:12-17 NIV](#))

- In our culture, is it natural for us to think that those who are being served are better than those doing the serving?

- In what ways can YOU serve those who are in need (This will differ for everyone as we have different giftings and God has placed different people in our lives)?
- Jesus told them they would be blessed IF they took action. How can you take action to serve someone this week?

Serving others does four major things for our lives:

- 1. It keeps us in spiritual shape**
- 2. We get to make a difference in a way that matters**
- 3. It is the only way to find our life's purpose**
- 4. We typically get served to the degree that we serve others**

“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.” ([Matthew 20:28 NLT](#))

- Are there currently any obstacles in your life that hold you back from serving others?
- How does serving others help us find our life's purpose? (God can not steer a parked car)
- What or who comes to mind when you think about serving others? Can you make a commitment to begin serving them soon?

Next Steps

Honestly reflect on the past 15 months of your life. Have you served others more or less? We can get creative when serving. Is there a phone call to make or a letter you can write? Maybe there is someone you can encourage or forgive; or possibly you have a heart for serving a particular group of people. Whatever it is, Jesus calls us to take action. Make a plan and let's start serving others today!

June 23: [Online Book Club: Improve Your Serve](#)

June 26: [Second Harvest Food Bank Serve Day](#)

June 27: [Starting Line](#) & [Game Time](#)

Continued Reading

Read:

[-1 Peter 4:8-11](#)

[-Proverbs 19:17](#)

[-Mark 10:41-45](#)

[-Romans 12:1-2](#)

Long Night's Journey Into Day:
5 Biblical Keys to Putting the
Last 15 Months Behind Us

“No More Hoarding”

Week 3

Prayer

God, thank you for showing me what it means to serve others. Thank you for showing Your love for us on the cross. I pray that you bring people into my life to serve, and by my service I can help show them who You are. Amen

Did you pray this prayer? Or do you have questions about this? [Let us know!](#)