



## LESSON 2 DEVOTION 1

**“SITTING DOWN, JESUS CALLED THE TWELVE AND SAID, ‘IF ANYONE WANTS TO BE FIRST, HE MUST BE THE VERY LAST, AND THE SERVANT OF ALL.’”  
-MARK 9:35**

There’s this understanding in our world that the way to get ahead is to “look out for yourself, and be true to what is best for you.” As long as you’re not harming anyone else, anything you need to do to make a name for yourself is fair game. Promote yourself. Build a “brand” on social media. Through it all, make yourself look as good as possible. Be famous in your own, little world.

The problem with this is that it’s pretty much the opposite of how Jesus talks about real greatness.

See, part of your identity as a Christ-follower is serving others. You’re called to look out for the interest of others ahead of your own, especially if those people are the weak, the discarded, and the lost. Because you’re a Christ-follower, true greatness comes from serving others first, even if that means putting yourself last. This is not so that you can make others happy (that is called people-pleasing). Instead, you meet the needs of others as an act of service so that you can bring honor to God.

You can go a long way toward showing others your true identity in Christ simply by putting them first. Not only will you be obeying Christ, but your actions will lead others to know a little more about Jesus and the difference He has made in your life.

### LESSON 2 DEVOTION 2

Did you know, that there are people in your life who would be blown away if you did something for them that showed them that they mattered? People who would be completely shocked if you did something today that put him or her first?

It’s true! We really don’t know how simple it is to make someone’s day until we’ve tried to do it. Listening to a friend talk about something they are passionate about without interrupting, or offering to buy someone a drink from the vending machine are ways that we can show others that we care for them, and find joy in putting them first. Try it out!

It’s a safe bet that this person would realize that there’s something different about you. And you might just get the chance to tell them that you’re trying to live out your identity as a Christ-follower.

Don’t miss the chance today to make a difference in someone else’s life by showing them the kind of humble heart Jesus wants to see in His followers.

### LESSON 2 DEVOTION 3

“Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!” Philippians 2:5-8

Don’t miss what’s being said here. Paul makes a huge statement. He says that our attitude should be like Jesus’ attitude. And how did Paul describe Jesus’ attitude? He said that Jesus saw His life as a life of humble service to others. In a world full of leaders that demand service from their people, Jesus chooses to serve His people instead.

If that attitude was good enough for Jesus to take on, then it should be good enough for us.

Spend today thinking about how this simple truth could radically change your life and your faith if you truly embraced it.

What would your life be like if you took on the identity of Christ’s humble service to the world?