

THE PURPOSES OF A CHURCH **Part 5: A Collection of Servants**

“The greatest among you will be your servant” (Matthew 23:11 NIV).

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45 NIV).

1. SERVANTS LOVE

“Having loved His own who were in the world, He now showed them the full extent of His love” (John 13:1b NIV).

“It is absolutely clear that God has called you to a free life. Just make sure that you don’t use this freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your freedom. Rather, use your freedom to serve one another in love...” (Galatians 5:13 MSG).

2. SERVANTS KNOW WHO THEY ARE

“Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under His power, and that He had come from God and was returning to God; so He got up from the meal, took off His outer clothing and wrapped a towel around His waist” (John 13:3-4 NIV).

3. SERVANTS MEET NEEDS

“After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash His disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around Him” (John 13:5 NIV).

4. SERVANTS ARE IMPERFECT PEOPLE

“Also, a dispute arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest” (Luke 22:24 NIV).

“The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus” (John 13:2 NIV).

“‘No,’ said Peter, ‘you shall never wash my feet.’ Jesus answered, ‘Unless I wash you, you have no part with Me.’ ‘Then, Lord,’ Simon Peter replied, ‘not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!’” (John 13:8-9 NIV).

5. SERVANTS ARE HUMBLE

“The greatest among you will be your servant. For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted” (Matthew 23:11-12 NIV).

“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 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’” (John 13:12-15 NIV).

“Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them” (John 13:17 NIV).