

Sermon Discussion Guide 08.28.22 Message | Tyler Myers & Andrew Kovar

Key Scriptures:

"...even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Matthew 20:28

Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

• 1 Peter 5:5

Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; for "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever."

1 Peter 1:22-25

We love because he first loved us.

1 John 4:19

Message Highlights:

- We don't exist for our personal preferences; we exist to fulfill God's purposes through serving one another.
- In kingdom living, we are clothed in humility; serving one another is our everyday "outfit."
- Serving one another is hard, humbling, healing and hopeful.
- When we serve one another like Jesus has served us, the gospel becomes accessible here, there and everywhere.

Conversation Starter:

Think of a time in the past few weeks when a fellow believer served you. How did that make you feel? What did that do for your faith? How does it make you feel when you are the one privileged to serve another believer in Christ?

Discuss the Message:

- 1. Read 1 Peter 1:22-25 again; what does it mean to "love one another earnestly from a pure heart"?
 - a) What are the dangers of serving from an impure, insincere heart?
 - b) What kind of nourishment does your heart need to be able to overflow with the fruit of love and service?



- c) Personally, what is your biggest obstacle/heart issue to serving one another?
- 2. Peter wrote, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble" (1 Peter 5:5). What do you think about the idea that God actively opposes us when we are prideful? What would be a humble response to that somewhat difficult truth?
- 3. John, one of Jesus' very best friends, wrote, "We love because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19).
 - a) How does receiving and remembering Christ's love for us make it possible to more fully love and serve others in Christ?
 - b) What happens when we try to serve others while forgetting how much Jesus loves and serves us?
 - c) What difficulties arise when we try to soak in Christ's love for us without expressing our love in return by serving others?
- 4. Think of a fellow believer you can serve this week. What practical act of service might really bless them and demonstrate your love for them in Christ? How and when will you serve them in that way? Make a plan, mark it on your calendar, and watch God move when you serve them in Jesus' name!

Pray:

Father in Heaven, holy and awesome is your name! We pray that your kingdom would come, in and through our lives, here and now, just as it is in heaven. We thank you for the way you love us so well and provide for all our needs. Please continue to provide so that we can provide for others who are in need. Father, we thank you for your grace and forgiveness. Help us to love and serve others as you have loved and served us. Holy Spirit, be our shining light in a world of darkness. May we be known by our love for one another. In the powerful name of our King, Jesus, Amen.