

REFLECTING GOD'S HEART THROUGH SERVICE

January 20, 2019 Various Texts by Mark Lundgren

BIG IDEA: Jesus came to serve. Those who follow Him serve.

...Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave--just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. **Matthew 20:26-28**

1. Follow me.

As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him. **Matthew 4:18-20**

We are all invited to be in relationship with Jesus, the creator of the universe. **It's a simple thing. He leads, we follow.** (Reference verses Matt 4:23, Matt 10: 5-8)

It's important to note that we are **not called to follow him alone**, just me and Jesus. There are others with us, and we need them. (Eph 4:16)

2. How do I follow a Jesus I can't see?

- Follow the leading of God's Spirit - *For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.* (Rom 8:14)
- God also leads us by using the desires of our heart when **we delight in him** - *Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord: trust in him and he will do this.* (Psalm 37:4-5)

- It's okay to ask someone else if what you are thinking sounds like the Lord and is consistent with what the Bible says.

This is a walk by faith, led by Jesus. Jesus came to serve, what do you think he will lead you to do?

3. Doing our part.

The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts: and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be... Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. **1 Cor. 12:12-18,27**

Everyone who has given their heart to the Lord is a part of his body. Each one of us has a specific part to play. Everyone is important. Every part is selected by God. You are chosen by God.

We are created to do good works. They have already been planned for us. *For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.* (Ephesians 2:10)