

Essentials
How To Serve Like Jesus

Titus 3:8 *...so that all who trust in God will devote themselves to doing good*

1. _____
Luke 22:26-27 *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.*

a) It's when we are _____
Matthew 20:28 *For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others...*

b) It is _____
Matthew 25:31-46

c) It changes _____
d) It's the _____

Romans 12:11 *Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.*

2. Let yourself _____
Luke 10:33 *Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him.*

3. Be willing to _____
Luke 10:34-35 *He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'*

4. _____
Luke 10:37 *Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."*

Years ago, Richard Foster, in his book *Celebration of Discipline*, put together a brief comparison of the characteristics of service that is focused more upon self and service that is focused upon Christ. In paraphrased form, it becomes a self-help test worth taking. Why not measure your clarity of vision against his conclusions?

Self-focused service is concerned with impressive gains. It enjoys serving when the service is titanic or growing in that direction. **Christ-focused** service doesn't distinguish between small and large. It indiscriminately welcomes all opportunities to serve.

Self-focused service requires external reward, appreciation, and applause. **Christ-focused** service rests content in hiddenness. The divine nod of approval is sufficient.

Self-focused service is highly concerned about results. It becomes disillusioned when results fall below expectations. **Christ-focused** service is free of the need to calculate results; it delights only in service.

Self-focused service is affected by feelings. **Christ-focused** service ministers simply and faithfully because there is a need. The service disciplines the feelings.

Self-focused service insists on meeting the need; it demands the opportunity to help. **Christ-focused** service listens with tenderness and patience. It can serve by waiting in silence.

A volunteer picks and chooses when and even whether to serve. A servant serves no matter what. A volunteer serves when convenient; a servant serves out of commitment. Someone said it well: "The servant does what he is told when he is told to do it. The volunteer does what he wants to do when he feels like doing it."