

it's a must

Whenever someone declares “Jesus is Lord!”, that person has forfeited the right to decide which of Jesus’ commands they will obey and which they will ignore. To be a disciple of Jesus is to live a “must” life in a “maybe” world, and this series will examine what that looks like.

Week 3: Service Is A Must!

1. Rick began by reminding us that “*Who’s the boss?*” conversations are *ones that should go when the kingdom comes*. **Read Matthew 20:20-28**. From your experience how you’ve seen conversations like these have a negative impact on a family or community? Follow up: What resonates with you the most from how Jesus responds to this situation?
2. **GREATNESS DEFINED: In the kingdom of God greatness is service, not status.** Looking back at the example in Matthew 20, how was “greatness” most commonly demonstrated or pursued in that culture? How is “greatness” defined in our culture today? Follow up: What does Jesus say about true greatness? How does that challenge you?
3. **Read Philippians 2:5-7**. What is most significant to you about the way Jesus came? How does his example encourage you to serve? Follow up: Rick also pointed out that “*No one is saved by service, but everyone is saved for service.*” Why is that important to remember?
4. **GREATNESS PURSUED: We must see service as identity more than activity.** Rick said, “*Jesus is not calling us to do something as much as he is calling us to be something.*” Why is it easier to do *acts of service* rather than to *be a servant*? Follow up: If you actually see your core identity as being a servant, how would that impact the way you see others?
5. **GREATNESS PURSUED: We must prioritize the “one another” life.** How has fellowship with other followers of Jesus shaped your life in ways following alone never could? Follow up: **Read 1 Peter 4:10**. What are we denying the church if we do not use our gifts? What are we denying ourselves when we refuse to serve? What are some ways we can better serve together as a group (see some examples here: <https://thehills.org/serveothers/>)?
6. **GREATNESS PURSUED: We must be different and make a difference.** Rick mentioned that “*holiness is more than the absence of badness; holiness is the presence of visible goodness.*” What does that mean to you? Share an example of someone who has modeled a life of visible goodness. How have you seen God working in and through them?
7. **GREATNESS REWARDED: We are all destined for greatness!** Rick closed by saying, *In heaven “Who’s the boss?” will be replaced by “Who can I bless?” We will never stop serving, because Jesus won’t.* **Read Luke 12:37**. How do you feel about Jesus serving you? Follow up: What is one way you can serve/bless someone else this week?

