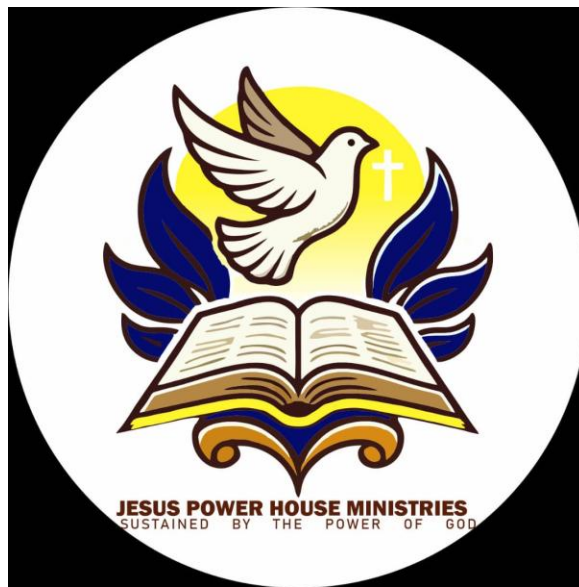


***GOD'S SERVANT HEART:
(LIVING WITH PURPOSE, LOVE, AND
HUMILITY)***



MOSES A. ANYANWU

DEDICATION

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Moses A. Anyanwu is the Senior Pastor of Jesus Power House Ministries UK. He is a renowned author, teacher, preacher, a missionary pioneer and a leader with passion for spreading the Gospel. A UK-trained lawyer, with Masters degree in UK University and practicing in the UK, a Doctor of Missions, he has had the privilege of serving as a missionary for over 34 years, spreading the Gospel and empowering communities worldwide.

As the presiding Bishop of Jesus Power House Ministries, His passion to see people grow in understanding in God's purpose for their lives and mature spiritually is evidence of his Apostolic anointing upon him to dedicatedly sharing God's love and transforming lives.

Beyond ministry, he is passionate about giving back, a philanthropist, supporting various causes that uplift and inspire humanity.

With a heart for service, a mind for justice, and a spirit driven by faith, he is committed to making a lasting impact for the Kingdom. He is happily married to Apostle Kachi Anyanwu and their marriage is blessed with wonderful children.

ABOUT THE BOOK

The book "God's Servant Heart" is a thought-provoking and inspiring book that explores the principles of servant leadership from a biblical perspective. Moses A. Anyanwu draws from his extensive ministry experience to provide practical guidance on cultivating a heart of servitude, humility, and compassion. This book is a mirror to: Christian leaders and pastors, Ministry workers and volunteers. Individuals seeking to deepen their faith. Business leaders and professionals. Anyone interested in servant leadership and spiritual growth.

FOREWORD

It is with great pleasure that I introduce "God's Servant Heart," the latest work by Moses Anyanwu. This inspiring book is a timely reminder of the transformative power of serving others with a heart centered on God.

As a seasoned pastor, teacher, and leader, Moses Anyanwu brings a wealth of experience and biblical insight to this critical topic. With clarity and conviction, he explores the essence of servant leadership, highlighting the qualities, principles, and practices that characterize a life dedicated to serving God and humanity.

Through compelling stories, scriptural analysis, and practical applications, Moses Anyanwu demonstrates how a servant heart:

- ❖ Reflects God's character and love
- ❖ Transforms relationships and communities
- ❖ Empowers effective ministry and leadership
- ❖ Fulfills our divine purpose

"God's Servant Heart" is more than a book – it's a call to action. Moses Anyanwu challenges readers to embrace a lifestyle of humility, compassion, and selflessness, mirroring the example of Jesus Christ.

Whether you're a leader, layperson, or simply seeking to deepen your faith, this book will inspire and equip you to:

- ❖ Cultivate a heart of servitude
- ❖ Develop a deeper understanding of God's love
- ❖ Impact your world with kingdom values

Join Moses Anyanwu on this journey into the heart of God, where servant leadership becomes a powerful catalyst for transformation.

Apostle Kachi Anyanwu
Mathematics Lecturer Uk.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am deeply grateful to the following individuals and organizations for their invaluable contributions to this book:

To My Family

My loving wife, Apostle Kachi Anyanwu for her unwavering support and encouragement and to my children for their patience and understanding.

To My Ministry Team

Jesus Power House Ministries family, for their tireless efforts in spreading the Gospel.

My colleagues and staff, for their dedication and commitment.

To My Publishers

Jesus Power House Ministries Publications, for their expertise and professionalism.

To God Almighty

For inspiring and empowering me to write this book.

May God richly bless each of you for your contributions to this project.

Moses A. Anyanwu

DEDICATION

To my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

Whose grace has transformed my life,
Whose mercy has sustained me,
And whose law guides me.

May this book honor your name
And inspire readers to deepen their faith.

Also, to my loving family,

My wife, Apostle Kachi Anyanwu and children,
Your love and support mean the world to me.

INTRODUCTION

In a world often driven by ambition, self-promotion, and personal gain, the concept of serving others with humility can seem countercultural. Yet, for followers of Christ, living with a servant heart is not just a noble ideal it's a calling from God. This book delves into the transformative power of adopting a servant's heart as exemplified in Scripture, particularly through the life of Jesus Christ, who came not to be served, but to serve.

The journey to developing a servant's heart starts with understanding God's love for us, how He calls us to reflect that love in our service to others, and the blessings that follow when we align our lives with His purpose. Let's explore what it means to live with a servant heart, the biblical foundation behind it, and how it can impact both our personal faith and our relationships with others.

Obedience to God's will is a key trait of a servant heart. When we obey, we submit our desires and ambitions to God's plan, trusting that He knows what is best. Jesus exemplified perfect obedience, even to the point of death on the cross (Philippians 2:8). True service is rooted in our trust and surrender to God's sovereignty.

Cultivating a servant heart begins with prayer and surrender. We must ask God to give us the strength, humility, and love to serve others as Jesus did. A daily practice of surrendering our will to God allows us to keep our hearts open to His

leading. Prayer helps us develop the mindset of a servant, seeking God's will above all else.

A servant heart is not confined to specific acts of service in the church or community. It is a lifestyle. Whether it's helping a neighbor, encouraging a friend, or giving generously, we can serve in countless small ways every day. Jesus' call to servanthood encompasses all aspects of life our work, our families, and our relationships.

Living with a Servant Heart is a journey and the journey of cultivating a servant heart is ongoing. It requires daily commitment, prayer, and reflection on how we can serve others better and align our lives with God's will. As we grow in our service, we will experience the deep joy and fulfillment that comes from living for something greater than ourselves. When we serve with a servant's heart, we not only change ourselves but also impact the world around us. Our acts of service become a testimony to God's love and grace. Jesus said in Matthew 5:16, **"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."** Through our service, we reflect God's love to the world, inspiring others to seek Him.

Ultimately, living with a servant heart allows us to follow the example of Jesus, who gave everything for the sake of others. As we serve, we bring God's love into the world, fulfill His purpose for our lives, and experience the abundant blessings that come from a life devoted to His service. Let's relate through these scriptures;

- Philippians 2:5-8
- Mark 10:45
- John 13:12-17
- Galatians 5:13
- Matthew 23:11-12

This book provides practical guidance and spiritual insights into developing a servant's heart, rooted in biblical teachings and the example of Jesus Christ. Let the journey toward humility, love, and service begin.

CHAPTER 1

UNDERSTANDING THE HEART OF A SERVANT

The Essence of Servanthood

At the core of servanthood lies **humility, love,** and a deep commitment to serving God by serving others. The Bible consistently emphasizes the value God places on those who possess a servant's heart.

In **Matthew 23:11-12**, Jesus teaches, ***"The greatest among you will be your servant. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."*** Here, servanthood is not just about performing tasks but a reflection of the posture of the heart.

Servanthood involves sacrificing personal desires for the well-being of others. It is a conscious decision to place others' needs above one's own, embodying the spirit of selflessness. A true servant heart seeks to glorify God through acts of kindness, humility, and obedience without seeking personal recognition or rewards.

Ephesians 6:7 reinforces this attitude of heart, saying, ***"Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people."*** This passage emphasizes that a servant's work, no matter how small or unseen by others, is ultimately for God's glory. When we serve others with pure motives, we are honoring God Himself.

Jesus, the Ultimate Servant Leader

The most powerful example of a servant heart is found in **Jesus Christ**. Despite being divine, Jesus chose the path of humility and service during His earthly ministry. In **Philippians 2:5-7**, the Apostle Paul describes Christ's servant nature: ***"In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to His own advantage; rather, He made Himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness."***

Jesus' life was marked by service, compassion, and humility. In a profound act of servanthood, Jesus washed His disciples' feet, an act normally reserved for the lowest household servants. This gesture, recounted in **John 13:12-15**, demonstrates Jesus' desire to model humility and service: ***"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 that 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.'"***

By taking on the role of a servant, Jesus challenged societal norms and showed that true greatness comes through serving others. His leadership was not about exerting power or control but about loving others through selfless acts. The ultimate act of His servanthood was His sacrifice on the cross, giving His life for the salvation of humanity. In **Mark 10:45**, Jesus proclaims, ***"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."***

Serving as a Reflection of God's Love

The heart of a servant is also a reflection of God's love. Serving others is an outward manifestation of the love we have received from God. In **1 John 3:16-18**, the Apostle John writes, ***"This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth."***

Here, John underscores that love should not be abstract or theoretical but demonstrated through concrete actions of service and compassion. The servant heart is driven by love—love for God and love for people. By meeting the needs of others, we bear witness to the love of God, fulfilling Jesus' commandment to *"love your neighbor as yourself"* (**Matthew 22:39**).

Serving others is, therefore, a natural expression of the transformation that takes place in a believer's heart when they come to know God. As we grow in faith, we are called to serve with the same love, humility, and dedication that Christ modeled.

The Reward of a Servant Heart

Although a servant's heart does not seek earthly rewards, the Bible makes it clear that God honors and blesses those who serve faithfully. In **Matthew 25:21**, Jesus speaks of the reward for those who have served well: ***"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'"***

God sees every act of service, whether large or small, and promises to reward His faithful servants. The true reward for a servant's heart is not material gain but the joy and fulfillment that comes from knowing we are doing God's will. We serve not for human applause but to hear the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant," from our Heavenly Father.

Hebrews 6:10 reassures believers of God's recognition of their service: ***"God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them."*** Every act of service, no matter how hidden or seemingly insignificant, is seen and valued by God.

A servant heart is one of the most profound expressions of Christian faith, rooted in the example of Jesus Christ. It calls for humility, love, and a willingness to serve others for the glory of God. Through our service, we reflect the love and grace of God to a world in need.

CHAPTER 2

THE NEED FOR GOD'S SERVANT HEART TODAY

In a world marked by division, self-centeredness, and increasing isolation, the need for God's servant heart is more urgent than ever. The heart of a servant rooted in humility, compassion, and selfless love offers a powerful antidote to the challenges that societies face today. As Christians, we are called to model this servant heart in every aspect of our lives, shining a light of hope and love into a broken world. The concept of servanthood is deeply rooted in the Old Testament. Leaders like Moses, David, and Nehemiah all exemplified a servant heart. They put aside their own desires to follow God's plan, even when it meant hardship or sacrifice. In Isaiah 42:1, God refers to His chosen servant, saying, "Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations."

Moses, in particular, is a striking example. Though he was reluctant and felt inadequate, he obeyed God's call to lead Israel out of slavery. He interceded for his people and dedicated his life to serving God's will. These biblical accounts show that servanthood is not about status or position but about obedience to God's purpose.

New Testament Insights on Service

The New Testament brings the theme of servanthood to the forefront. In Mark 10:43-45, Jesus states, **"Whoever wants to become great among you must be**

your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. 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."

The Apostle Paul also exemplified a servant heart. His letters are filled with calls to serve one another in love, such as in Galatians 5:13, "You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love." The idea is clear: to serve is to follow Christ's example of selflessness, humility, and love.

A Response to Self-Centeredness

Today, we live in a culture that often glorifies self-promotion, personal achievement, and individualism. The message of "put yourself first" permeates every level of society, from the workplace to social media. This emphasis on personal success can breed arrogance, entitlement, and neglect of the needs of others. The Bible, however, calls believers to live differently, embracing humility and service to others over self-interest.

In **Philippians 2:3-4**, the Apostle Paul urges Christians to adopt the mindset of humility, saying, ***"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."*** This counter-cultural perspective teaches that true greatness is found in serving others, not in elevating oneself.

Adopting a servant heart allows Christians to stand out in a world where many prioritize their own desires. Jesus Himself embodied this mindset, telling His disciples in **Mark 9:35**, ***"Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all."*** By choosing service over selfish ambition, we model Christ's example and invite others to experience the freedom and fulfillment that comes from living for something greater than ourselves.

Healing a Divided World

Conflict, division, and injustice have become pervasive realities in today's world. Social, political, and racial tensions often result in fractured communities and broken relationships. In such a climate, the servant heart marked by love,

humility, and peacemaking has the potential to be a source of healing and reconciliation.

Jesus highlighted the importance of peacemaking as part of a servant's life. In **Matthew 5:9**, He says, *"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."* To embody God's servant heart is to work for peace, bridging divides and bringing people together in the name of Christ.

Christians are called to serve others across cultural, racial, and social barriers, just as Jesus did during His ministry. In **Galatians 3:28**, Paul reminds us of the equality found in Christ: *"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."* By serving one another in love, regardless of background or status, we become agents of reconciliation in a divided world.

The servant heart does not just advocate for peace—it takes action to foster unity and justice. In **Micah 6:8**, we are reminded of God's call to, *"act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."* Service that promotes justice and mercy reflects the heart of God and brings His kingdom values into the present-day world.

Compassion for the Marginalized

One of the greatest needs in the world today is compassion for the marginalized, the poor, and the oppressed. Whether it's addressing poverty, hunger, homelessness, or other forms of injustice, God's servant heart compels us to act on behalf of those who cannot help themselves. In **Proverbs 31:8-9**, we are called to, *"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."*

The example of Jesus' ministry provides a clear blueprint for serving the marginalized. Jesus spent much of His time with those whom society ignored—the poor, the sick, the outcasts. In **Matthew 25:40**, Jesus teaches that serving the least in society is synonymous with serving Him: *"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"*

This compassion-driven service is not optional for Christians; it is a core part of our calling. In **James 1:27**, we are reminded that ***“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress.”*** Caring for those in need reflects the heart of God and draws us closer to Him, while also addressing some of the greatest challenges in today’s society.

Leading Through Servanthood

Leadership in today’s world is often associated with power, authority, and control. However, Jesus redefined leadership as servanthood. In a time where many leaders seek to elevate themselves, there is a need for servant leaders who lead with humility and a heart for the well-being of others.

In **Matthew 20:25-28**, Jesus offers a radical model for leadership: ***“You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. 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.”***

Servant leadership focuses on empowering others, lifting them up rather than dominating them. It values the growth, well-being, and development of others. **1 Peter 5:2-3** emphasizes this servant-leadership approach: ***“Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.”***

In our homes, workplaces, and churches, the need for servant-hearted leaders is critical. By leading through service, we reflect the heart of Christ and influence those around us toward love, humility, and faith.

Serving in a World of Busyness

The fast pace of modern life often leads to busyness and distraction, leaving little time for serving others. However, the Bible warns us against becoming so consumed by our own schedules and pursuits that we neglect our calling to serve.

Hebrews 13:16 encourages believers, ***“Do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”***

In today's world, there is a greater need to intentionally make space for service in our lives. Just as Jesus took time to serve, even in the midst of His demanding ministry, we must prioritize acts of love and kindness in our daily routines. Serving is not just something we do when we have extra time it is part of our Christian identity.

Colossians 3:23-24 offers wisdom on how to integrate servanthood into our busy lives: ***“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.”*** This passage reminds us that our work, no matter how mundane or ordinary, can be an act of service to God when done with the right heart.

The Urgency of a Servant's Heart

The need for God's servant heart is more pressing today than ever. In a world fraught with self-centeredness, division, and suffering, Christians have the unique opportunity to shine the light of Christ through acts of service. Whether by promoting peace, advocating for justice, or offering compassion to those in need, we are called to embody the servant heart of Jesus.

In **Matthew 5:14-16**, Jesus tells His followers, ***“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”***

The heart of a servant is a powerful force for good. As we embrace humility, love, and service, we become vessels of God's grace, bringing hope, healing, and light to the world around us.

Having The Heart Of A Servant

“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.” - Matthew 20:28.

It is not all that unusual to be driving along and encountering a person on the corner of the street holding a little cardboard sign. If you live in a city then you probably have seen people with cardboard signs on a regular basis. The fundamental question is what should we do when we pass by them on the street?

The fact of the matter is that our hearts should break in compassion for those who are struggling. The Bible is also very clear about helping the poor. We are to have compassion for those who are suffering and show them grace. Proverbs 14:21 says, ***“It is a sin to belittle one’s neighbor; blessed are those who help the poor.”***

Our calling is clear, we need to be gracious. But people with cardboard signs present us with a dilemma. How do we know that the person asking is actually in need? And how do we know if they will use our money the right way? Will they buy liquor or cigarettes? If I give this person money will it help them for one day or will it help him or her at all?

We sit in the car weighing the possibilities. Questions fog up our heads. We become conflicted by sometimes equal yet opposite views of the choices in what to do. We could give the person some money. But too often we often find ourselves torn and unable to make a choice. So we choose not to make a choice at all. In other words, our fear of doing the wrong thing stops us from doing anything, which precludes us from serving anyone at all.

We can serve others well when we actively decide to take on the role of a servant. When we study the life of Jesus, we find countless examples where He took on the role of the servant. From choosing to wash the feet of His disciples to the very decision of coming to earth and living as an ordinary human, Christ continually

humbled himself for the sake of others and switched places with people in the lowliest of positions. If we want to be like Jesus, we need to remember that, in God's eyes, everyone else is just as important as us.

By simply taking the position, what can I do today to serve, we're opening ourselves up to a world of needs, not just the ones that are convenient or fit nicely into the time we've allotted to help. But the act of caring might not always require big and dramatic action. Caring for another person might mean going against what's on the planned agenda or stopping to give a homeless man or woman a few dollars. The more time we spend examining what it means to serve others well, it comes down to having a servant's heart. Serving others means seeing them as valuable and worthy to serve and be served, simply because God views them that way even if they are standing on a corner with a cardboard sign.

CHAPTER 3

GOD'S SERVANT HEART AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHURCH

The church, as the body of Christ, is called to reflect His love and serve the world. The heart of a servant is essential not only for individual believers but also for the collective advancement of the Church. Throughout Scripture, we see that God uses those with servant hearts to lead, build, and strengthen His church. When the Church embraces a posture of servanthood, it reflects Christ's mission and accelerates the spread of the Gospel.

The Church as the Body of Christ

The New Testament frequently refers to the Church as the "body of Christ," emphasizing the interconnectedness of believers and the need for each member to serve with humility and love. In **1 Corinthians 12:12-14**, Paul explains, ***"Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many."***

This metaphor of the Church as a body highlights the essential nature of servanthood. Every member of the Church is called to contribute their unique gifts and talents for the benefit of the whole. Just as a body cannot function if its parts do not work together, the Church cannot thrive without the service of each

believer. The servant heart unites the Church, allowing it to operate effectively as a witness to the world.

Each believer's role, no matter how seemingly small, is crucial to the overall health and advancement of the Church. **Romans 12:4-5** reinforces this: ***“For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.”*** When believers embrace a servant's heart, the Church functions as a unified, effective body that reflects Christ's love to the world.

Servant Leadership in the Church

Servant leadership is foundational to the Church's growth and mission. Jesus redefined leadership as servanthood, a principle that extends to the leaders of the Church. Pastors, elders, deacons, and other leaders are called to shepherd the flock with humility, care, and selflessness. In **1 Peter 5:2-3**, Peter instructs church leaders, ***“Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.”***

Jesus provided the ultimate model of servant leadership when He washed His disciples' feet, showing that leadership in the Kingdom of God is rooted in humility and service. In **John 13:14-15**, Jesus said, ***“Now that 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.”*** This act of service is a powerful reminder that leaders in the Church are called not to elevate themselves but to serve others as Christ served.

When leaders adopt a servant's heart, the Church flourishes. The selflessness of servant leaders inspires and equips others to serve, fostering an environment where everyone can contribute to the mission of the Church. In turn, this strengthens the Church's witness to the world, demonstrating the love of Christ in action.

Empowering the Church Through Service

The advancement of the Church relies on the active participation and service of every believer. Each member of the body has a role to play, and when they serve faithfully, the Church is empowered to grow and reach others with the Gospel. In **Ephesians 4:11-12**, Paul outlines how the Church is built up through the service of its members: ***“So Christ Himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip His people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.”***

Paul emphasizes that the primary role of church leaders is to equip others for service. This equipping empowers believers to use their gifts in ministry, resulting in a church that is not stagnant but constantly growing in strength, unity, and influence. When members of the Church embrace servanthood, they actively contribute to the Church’s mission to spread the Gospel and care for the needs of the community.

Acts 6:1-7 provides a clear example of how the early Church grew through the empowerment of servant-hearted individuals. When the apostles realized they needed help in caring for the widows and distributing food, they appointed deacons to serve in this capacity. As a result, the apostles were able to focus on preaching and teaching, and the Church continued to grow: ***“So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith”*** (Acts 6:7).

Serving as a Witness to the World

One of the most powerful ways the Church advances is through its service to the world. When the Church serves with love and humility, it becomes a visible demonstration of Christ’s heart for humanity. Acts of service whether feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, or advocating for justice communicate the Gospel in tangible ways. Jesus taught that the world would recognize His followers by their love for one another: ***“By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another”*** (John 13:35).

The early Church’s commitment to service was a key factor in its growth and impact. In **Acts 2:44-47**, we see the early Christians living out a communal life of service: ***“All the believers were together and had everything in common. They***

sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.” Their selfless acts of service attracted others to the faith and contributed to the rapid expansion of the Church.

In today's world, the Church's servant heart continues to be a powerful witness. When the Church steps out to serve the needs of the community, it shows the love of Christ in action and opens doors for evangelism. As the Church serves, it becomes a beacon of hope and a reflection of God's kingdom on earth.

The Blessing of Unity Through Service

A servant heart not only advances the Church's mission but also fosters unity within the body of Christ. Service has a unique way of drawing people together, breaking down barriers, and building relationships. In **Philippians 2:1-4**, Paul calls the Church to a spirit of unity through humble service: ***“Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from His love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”***

When believers serve one another, it creates a spirit of cooperation and mutual respect. This unity not only strengthens the Church internally but also enhances its witness to the world. **Psalms 133:1** reminds us of the blessing of unity: ***“How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!”*** A unified Church, grounded in servanthood, becomes a powerful force for advancing God's kingdom on earth.

Servanthood as the Key to Church Growth

The servant heart is at the core of the Church's mission and advancement. Through humble leadership, the empowerment of believers, and a commitment to serve the world, the Church reflects Christ's love and fulfills its calling to make

disciples of all nations. In **Matthew 28:19-20**, Jesus commissioned His followers, saying, ***“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”***

This Great Commission is advanced through the Church's commitment to servanthood. As we serve one another and the world, we live out the Gospel in tangible ways, inviting others to experience the love and grace of God. Through a servant's heart, the Church grows, thrives, and becomes the light that God intended it to be.

God's Servants Do Not Get Tired While Doing God's Work

Our body may get tired, but our hearts will always be glad and peaceful when we do God's work. Doing the work for our Master is like doing our own work. It is because we are one in a sense, even though we stand in the relationship of master and servant.

In the movie 'Ben-Hur' the main character comes back to his house after an exile. When he came back, his old house had been completely ruined. At that moment, someone shows up. It was a daughter of his old servant he had before he had gone into the exile. She takes him to some place, where he finds his old servant with his one leg cut. He finds out that his servant had to go through the torture because of him, and he carries him on his back to his house. Then he falls in love with the servant's daughter, who has remained in the house.

The servant in the movie never blamed his master even though he had to suffer from the pain when his leg was chopped because of the master. Neither did he lament over his fate, nor did he blame on the indifference of his master. I was really touched by the attitude of this servant when I watched 'Ben-Hur.' Servants may suffer for their master, since their life is tied to the life of their master; faithful servants should have the same attitude of the servant in the movie, who felt sorry for not being able to serve his master as well as he did before without

claiming any righteousness when his master came back. It is needless to mention that servants should share the joy of his master.

Our duties as his servants

Just like a steward takes care of a household as his job, the job of servant of God is to live for God and die for God. It is natural for servants to be glorified as well as to be humbled for the master. Likewise we all need to become the faithful servants for the Lord. We should always remember that the Lord's business is our business, that His glory is ours, and finally that our Master is the Lord Jesus Christ. With such an attitude in our hearts, we can do anything with joy. By remembering that everything comes from God, we should rejoice always, pray without ceasing and give thanks to God. That is the true state of mind of a faithful servant.

If we consider ourselves the master of our own lives and try to do things with our own ideas and volition, we cannot do Lord's work willingly. We should always discuss what is on our minds and be united with other saints lest that we feel like doing our own thing. To divide and do God's work more efficiently, we need to consult with God's servants and our coworkers and make decisions based on the discussion we have with them.

He who can work with joyful heart for the Lord no matter what task is given to him is truly committed to the Lord. Such person can do anything with cheerful heart. He might feel bothersome about his own work, but he will try to do better in the work for the Lord. On the other hand, those who consider themselves as their own masters make decisions based on whether it is beneficial to them or not. However, Lord's servants will not pick and choose what he wants to do for the Lord as long as it is for the Lord. He knows that he will be blessed for that in the future.

There are two kinds of believers: Those who became their own kings and those who serve the Lord as their King. When we compare the hearts of these two groups, we can find that the hearts of the latter is more peaceful than the hearts of the former. Those who serve the Lord as their Master do everything for the glory of God, no matter what they eat or drink. They tune everything to the will of the Lord, their Master. Faithful servants of God have the courage to do what seems crazy in people's eyes but profitable to the Lord, the courage to refuse to do what looks beneficial to themselves but not to the Lord.

Brothers and sisters, haven't we been serving the Lord in such way? We have been working for the Lord without ceasing. Was preaching the gospel to over 34 countries done for us? If we had worked to satisfy our own desires, we couldn't have preached the gospel in so many countries. If it is something for us, we can feel satisfied with small achievement. But when we do things for the Lord, our Master, we cannot stop at a small achievement. We don't have time to enjoy such small achievements because we see many other things to do. The heart of the faithful servant differs so much from the heart of those who are masters to themselves. There are also distinct features between people who live for other people and people who live for God.

Ministering is the same thing. Those who minister for God and those who carry out pastoral duties for people according to the situation are different as well. Since their goals are different, the means and results are all different. Their beginnings look similar to each other's, but when a problem arises, each of the groups shows different ways and attitudes to handle the situation. Those who serve God as their Master can understand what went wrong, turn around, and stand on God's side in such troubled situations. At the moment of decision-making, they always take their stand by God's side. But those who are not committed are most likely to betray the Lord and pursue their own profits in such situations. That is why the commitment of the heart is so important in serving the Lord.

Those who set their hearts towards God can profess, "I will give up my life and live for God. It is worth it since the gospel is so precious and brings benefits to people. So I will work for the Lord and live for Him with all my heart." God cherishes those who have such faith. Will God not take care of such faithful servants? Therefore, you and I should become truthful servants. As a matter of fact, everyone needs to become such a faithful servant of the Lord.

But there are not many faithful servants of God. We need 'true servants' not 'mere servants'. When we commit our hearts to Jesus Christ and set our hearts to live for Him, God can do amazing things through us. No matter how big a crowd is following the Lord, if they are not committed, they are all useless to the Lord. They are of no use to God. They will most likely run away when they see an iron hammer. However, truly faithful servant of God is not afraid of anything in this world. We can do the same thing in return; we shall throw the iron hammer of the Truth to people in this world in return.

Let us not serve two masters but serve only one Master. Let us set our hearts to live for the Lord. Let's set our hearts towards the Lord no matter how hard our life will get. I believe God will work things out once we commit our hearts to Him.

Brothers and sisters let us live by faith. And let us live as the servants of faith. We are the servants of God's Kingdom. The servants of God are truly happy. They are not ordinary servants that work for the people of the world but the servants of the Christ. As you all know, there are people who are slaves to others. Let us laugh at them when we see them. Whom we serve as our master puts us in a different position. We serve the Master, who is worthy of our lives. He is more than worthy of our lives. It is a great blessing to have such a great Master. We are such blessed people.

Blessed are those who do not feel sorry about sacrificing themselves to serve the Lord. It is really worth being the servant of the Lord. On the contrary, those who serve unworthy masters are really pathetic. Our Master is the Lord only. I believe that God will help us and work through us when we set our hearts to preach the gospel diligently and to do the work of the Lord. He will surely do it for us. All we need to do is to seek, ask and knock by faith and prepare our vessels. And we need to keep on going by faith. God will help us and accomplish everything through us with His almighty power, as we move on seeking His help. I do believe this as truth. I believe you all do so.

Brothers and sisters let us live by faith. We can just render all our worries to the Lord and live a prayerful life focused on the work of the Lord. All we need to do is to live a faithful life as His servants. In other words, we can just serve the Lord as our only Master. I believe that He will bring us life, peace and blessings when we serve Him as our Master with all our heart. I end this sermon with thankful heart to the Lord.

CHAPTER 4

GOD'S SERVANT HEART AND THE TEACHINGS OF JESUS

Jesus Christ, the ultimate servant leader, exemplified and taught the importance of having a servant's heart throughout His ministry. His life and teachings revealed that greatness in God's kingdom is found not in power or status, but in humility, service, and love for others. The servant heart was central to Jesus' message and mission, and He called His followers to adopt the same attitude. This chapter explores key teachings of Jesus that emphasize the need for God's servant heart. Humility is essential to having a servant's heart. It is the recognition that we are not greater than anyone else and that all we do is for God's glory. In 1 Peter 5:6, we are told, "Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time." Humility allows us to place others before ourselves, understanding that our true purpose is to serve, not to seek personal glory. A servant's heart is driven by compassion. Jesus often moved with compassion, healing the sick, feeding the hungry, and comforting the broken-hearted. In Matthew 14:14, we see this clearly: "When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, He had compassion on them and healed their sick." To serve as Jesus did, we must open our hearts to the needs of others and be willing to act in love.

Jesus, the Servant King

Jesus' life was a testimony to the heart of a servant. Despite being the Son of God, He humbled Himself to serve humanity, ultimately laying down His life on the cross. In **Philippians 2:6-7**, Paul beautifully captures this truth: ***"Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to His own advantage; rather, He made Himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness."***

Jesus' servanthood was voluntary and driven by His love for humanity. He did not seek earthly recognition or power but willingly became a servant to fulfill God's plan of redemption. In **Mark 10:45**, Jesus sums up His mission, saying, *"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."* This act of service—the giving of His life—was the ultimate expression of God's servant heart.

Washing the Disciples' Feet: A Model of Servanthood

One of the most powerful moments in Jesus' ministry that illustrates servanthood is found in **John 13:1-17**, where He washes the feet of His disciples. This act was typically reserved for the lowest servant in a household, yet Jesus—Lord and Teacher—took on this humble task to demonstrate the importance of serving one another.

After washing their feet, Jesus explained the significance of His actions in **John 13:14-15**: ***"Now that 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."*** Jesus did not simply teach servanthood—He lived it. By washing the disciples' feet, He modeled the humility and love that He expected His followers to show to one another.

This lesson reminds us that no act of service is too lowly when it is done in love. As followers of Christ, we are called to serve others with the same humility, recognizing that true greatness comes from putting others' needs above our own. In **Luke 22:26**, Jesus told His disciples, ***"The greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves."***

Jesus Teaching on Greatness and Servanthood

Throughout His ministry, Jesus regularly challenged the world's understanding of greatness. In a society that often values power, wealth, and status, Jesus flipped these values upside down by teaching that true greatness comes through humble service. In **Matthew 20:25-28**, Jesus contrasted worldly leadership with the leadership He desired among His followers: ***"You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. 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."***

This passage shows that greatness in God's kingdom is radically different from the world's definition. Jesus teaches that those who wish to be great must become servants, and those who wish to be first must willingly become the least. This teaching challenges believers to reorient their ambitions—not toward personal advancement, but toward service and humility.

In another instance, Jesus took a child seen as one of the least in society—and used the child to teach a profound lesson on servanthood. In **Mark 9:35-37**, He said, ***"Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all. He took a little child whom He placed among them. Taking the child in His arms, He said to them, 'Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes Me; and whoever welcomes Me does not welcome Me but the one who sent Me.'"*** Jesus emphasized that serving those who are often overlooked, like children, is of great value in God's kingdom.

The Parable of the Good Samaritan: Compassionate Service

Jesus also taught the importance of serving others through parables, one of the most famous being the **Parable of the Good Samaritan** in **Luke 10:25-37**. In this story, a man is beaten, robbed, and left for dead on the side of the road. Both a priest and a Levite pass by without offering help. However, a Samaritan, who was considered an outsider and often despised by the Jews, stopped to help the injured man. He bandaged his wounds, took him to an inn, and paid for his care.

Jesus used this parable to teach that true neighborly love is demonstrated through action. In **Luke 10:36-37**, He asked, **“Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”** The expert in the law replied, **“The one who had mercy on him.”** Jesus told him, **“Go and do likewise.”**

The Good Samaritan exemplifies God's servant heart. He did not consider social boundaries or personal inconvenience—he simply acted out of compassion. Jesus calls His followers to serve others with the same heart of compassion, putting aside prejudices and excuses to meet the needs of those around us.

The Call to Love and Serve One Another

Jesus' teaching on servanthood is ultimately rooted in love. He commanded His disciples to love one another as He loved them, a love that is demonstrated through selfless service. In **John 13:34-35**, Jesus said, ***“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another.”***

This command to love is not abstract—it is practical and active. Jesus calls us to love others in the way He loved, which means serving others sacrificially, even when it is difficult or inconvenient. In **Matthew 25:40**, Jesus taught that when we serve others, especially the least in society, we are serving Him: ***“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of Mine, you did for Me.’”***

The heart of a servant is not driven by duty but by love for God and for others. Jesus' teachings show us that servanthood is not just about action—it's about the motivation of the heart. **1 John 3:18** echoes this, saying, ***“Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.”***

Jesus' Example of Servanthood

The teachings of Jesus consistently point to the necessity of having a servant heart. Through His actions and words, Jesus redefined what it means to be great

in the kingdom of God. He calls His followers to reject selfish ambition and instead embrace humility, compassion, and service. Whether through washing His disciples' feet, telling the Parable of the Good Samaritan, or commanding His followers to love one another, Jesus continually demonstrated the servant heart of God.

As we seek to live out these teachings, we are invited to follow the example of Christ, who came not to be served but to serve. In doing so, we reflect the love of God to the world and fulfill the mission of the Church to be a light in the darkness.

CHAPTER 5

GOD'S SERVANT HEART IN OUR FAMILIES TODAY

The family is one of the most foundational and sacred institutions created by God. It is in the context of family life that we learn love, selflessness, sacrifice, and servanthood. The call to embrace God's servant heart begins in our own homes, where relationships between spouses, parents, children, and extended family provide daily opportunities to practice Christ-like service. By living out a servant's heart within the family, we can build stronger, more loving, and united families that reflect God's love to the world.

Serving One Another in Love

At the heart of a Christian family is the command to love one another through service. In **Galatians 5:13**, Paul reminds believers, ***"You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love."*** This call to service applies as much in the family as in the church or community. God calls us to approach family relationships with a heart of humility and a willingness to serve each other.

In the family, love is not just a feeling but an action. We are to serve one another through acts of kindness, patience, forgiveness, and compassion. **1 Corinthians 13:4-7** gives a clear description of what love looks like in practice: ***“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”***

When we serve our family members with love, we embody the heart of a servant, placing their needs above our own and working for their good.

Husbands and Wives: Mutual Service in Marriage

God designed marriage to reflect His covenant relationship with His people. A Christ-centered marriage thrives when both spouses adopt a servant heart toward each other. In **Ephesians 5:21**, Paul calls husbands and wives to *“submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.”* This mutual submission is not about one partner dominating the other but about both partners serving each other in love and humility.

For husbands, the model of servanthood is found in Christ’s sacrificial love for the church. **Ephesians 5:25** instructs husbands, ***“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her.”*** Christ’s love for the church was self-giving, sacrificial, and rooted in service. Husbands are called to emulate this love by caring for their wives’ needs, leading with humility, and seeking their well-being above their own.

Wives, too, are called to serve their husbands in love. In **Ephesians 5:22-24**, Paul encourages wives to submit to their husbands as the church submits to Christ. This submission is not about inferiority but about following Christ’s example of humility and servanthood. When both partners serve each other in love, the marriage reflects God’s design and becomes a testimony of His grace.

Parents: Serving Children Through Love and Guidance

Parenthood is a sacred responsibility that involves nurturing, guiding, and serving children with a heart of love. God calls parents to reflect His servant heart by raising their children in the ways of the Lord. **Ephesians 6:4** instructs fathers (and by extension, all parents): ***“Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.”*** This call to raise children in God’s ways requires patience, kindness, and a servant’s heart.

Parents are called to serve their children by providing for their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. In **Proverbs 22:6**, the Bible emphasizes the importance of spiritual training: ***“Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.”*** By dedicating time to teaching, nurturing, and disciplining their children with love, parents reflect God’s heart as a loving and attentive Father.

However, service in parenting goes beyond discipline and instruction. Parents are also called to love their children sacrificially, offering encouragement, comfort, and guidance throughout their lives. **Colossians 3:21** provides this important reminder: ***“Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.”*** Parents who serve their children with a heart of humility and compassion foster an environment of trust, respect, and love.

Children: Honoring and Serving Parents

God’s servant heart extends to children as well, who are called to honor and obey their parents as a way of serving God. In **Ephesians 6:1-3**, Paul writes, ***“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ‘Honor your father and mother’—which is the first commandment with a promise—‘so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.’”*** Honoring parents is a direct expression of serving them with love, respect, and gratitude.

In today’s society, where independence and self-sufficiency are often glorified, the biblical call for children to serve their parents through obedience and respect is counter-cultural. However, it is a crucial part of living out God’s design for families. When children adopt a servant heart, they contribute to the strength and harmony of the family, creating an atmosphere of mutual care and respect.

In **Colossians 3:20**, Paul further encourages children, ***“Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.”*** Obedience to parents is seen as an act of obedience to God. Through serving their parents with respect and love, children can reflect the servant heart of Christ.

Siblings and Extended Family: Serving with Unity and Love

Service within the family is not limited to spouses, parents, and children it extends to siblings, grandparents, and other extended family members. Sibling relationships can be rich opportunities for practicing servanthood, as brothers and sisters are called to love and support one another. **1 Peter 3:8** encourages believers to ***“live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble.”***

A servant's heart is vital to maintaining peace and unity in sibling and extended family relationships. When we approach these relationships with humility and a willingness to serve, we foster an environment of love and mutual support. The story of Cain and Abel in **Genesis 4:1-9** serves as a cautionary tale of what happens when envy and self-centeredness destroy the bond between siblings. In contrast, Christ calls us to serve and care for one another as brothers and sisters in both physical and spiritual families.

In caring for elderly parents or grandparents, God's servant heart calls for honor, respect, and care. **1 Timothy 5:4** advises families to take care of their older relatives, saying, ***“But if a widow has children or grandchildren, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God.”*** By serving extended family with love and dedication, we reflect God's heart and His commandments to honor and care for those who have cared for us.

Embracing the Servant Heart in Family Life

The family is the first place where we can truly learn and live out the heart of a servant. As husbands and wives, parents and children, brothers and sisters, and members of extended families, we are all called to serve one another in love,

humility, and selflessness. Jesus' teaching on servanthood is just as applicable in our homes as it is in the church or community.

When families embrace God's servant heart, they create an atmosphere of love, respect, and unity that reflects the nature of Christ. As **Joshua 24:15** declares, ***"But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."*** Families who serve one another and God will not only experience the blessings of strong, loving relationships but will also be a witness of God's love to the world.

CHAPTER 6

GOD'S SERVANT HEART IN OUR SOCIETY TODAY

In a world filled with challenges like inequality, self-interest, and division, the need for God's servant heart in society is greater than ever. As followers of Christ, we are called to be salt and light in the world, reflecting His love through service to others. The principles of humility, compassion, and selflessness that define a servant heart can transform our communities and build a society that mirrors God's kingdom. This chapter explores how embracing God's servant heart can impact various aspects of society today.

The Call to Serve Others in Society

Jesus made it clear that His followers are to live as servants in the world, serving those around them as He did. In **Mark 10:42-45**, Jesus told His disciples: ***"You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever***

wants to be first must be slave of all. 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."

Jesus' words are a powerful reminder that in God's kingdom, greatness is measured not by status or power but by a heart of service. As believers, we are called to serve the needs of others, regardless of social standing or personal gain. This call extends beyond the walls of the church and into every area of society—our workplaces, neighborhoods, schools, and governments.

In **Matthew 5:13-16**, Jesus likened His followers to salt and light, saying, ***"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again?... You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."***

By living out a servant heart in society, Christians become a beacon of hope and love in a world that often values self-interest. Our acts of service reflect God's love to the world and glorify Him.

Addressing Social Injustice and Inequality

One of the most pressing issues in society today is the reality of injustice and inequality. Whether through economic disparity, racial injustice, or the marginalization of vulnerable populations, society is marked by systems that often prioritize the powerful over the powerless. God's servant heart calls us to address these issues with compassion and action.

In **Micah 6:8**, the prophet writes, ***"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."*** Acting justly is at the heart of servanthood. Christians are called to be voices for the voiceless, advocates for the oppressed, and defenders of justice in an unjust world.

Jesus exemplified this in His own ministry. He often reached out to those who were marginalized by society—the poor, the sick, the outcasts. In **Luke 4:18**, Jesus

declared His mission: ***"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free."***

Christians today are called to continue this mission by addressing the root causes of inequality and injustice. **Proverbs 31:8-9** encourages us to, ***"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."*** Through service and advocacy, we can work to create a more just and equitable society.

Compassion for the Vulnerable and Needy

God's servant heart is revealed through our compassion for the vulnerable and needy in society. The Bible consistently emphasizes God's concern for the poor, the widows, the orphans, and the oppressed. In **James 1:27**, the Apostle James writes, ***"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."***

As Christians, we are called to extend a servant heart to those in need, providing not only material assistance but also love, dignity, and hope. Jesus taught this principle clearly in the **Parable of the Sheep and the Goats** in **Matthew 25:31-46**. In this parable, Jesus explains that serving the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the sick, and the imprisoned is equivalent to serving Christ Himself. He said, ***"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."***

This parable challenges us to examine how we respond to the needs of the vulnerable in our society. Are we serving those in need with the same compassion and dedication that Christ demonstrated? **Isaiah 58:6-7** further reinforces this calling: ***"Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?"***

Serving the vulnerable is a central expression of God's servant heart and an essential way we can make a positive impact on society.

Promoting Peace and Reconciliation

In a world rife with conflict, division, and strife, God's servant heart calls us to be peacemakers. Jesus said in **Matthew 5:9**, ***"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."*** As servants of God, we are to actively pursue peace and reconciliation in our communities, families, and nations.

Promoting peace involves more than just avoiding conflict. It requires a proactive effort to bring reconciliation, heal broken relationships, and foster understanding. **Romans 12:18** instructs, ***"If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."*** This call to peace should shape how we interact with others, especially in a society marked by division.

In addition to promoting peace, we are called to forgive and seek reconciliation, following Jesus' example. In **Matthew 5:23-24**, Jesus said, ***"Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift."*** A servant heart seeks to restore relationships and promote harmony.

Leading by Example: Servant Leadership in Society

Christians are called to be servant leaders in every sphere of life, from politics and business to education and healthcare. Servant leadership, modeled by Jesus, involves leading with humility, integrity, and a heart for serving others. In **Matthew 20:26-28**, Jesus explained, ***"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."***

In today's society, where leadership is often associated with power and self-promotion, Christians are called to lead differently. Servant leaders prioritize the

needs of others, seek the common good, and work for justice and fairness. **1 Peter 5:2-3** instructs leaders, ***“Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.”***

Whether in positions of authority or influence, Christians can model servant leadership by making decisions that prioritize the well-being of others, promoting ethical practices, and leading with integrity.

Living Out God’s Servant Heart in Society

God’s servant heart is the key to transforming society. By embracing humility, compassion, and selfless service, Christians can bring healing, justice, and hope to a world in need. As we live out this calling in our daily lives, we reflect the love of Christ and advance God’s kingdom on earth.

Matthew 5:16 reminds us of the impact our service can have: ***“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”*** When we serve others with a heart of humility and love, we not only bless those around us but also point them to the One who gave His life in service for all Jesus Christ.

CHAPTER 7

GOD’S SERVANT HEART – THE WAY OUT

In times of personal struggle, societal challenges, and spiritual confusion, the servant heart of God provides a way out—leading us toward healing, hope, and transformation. A world marked by selfishness, division, and suffering often feels

overwhelming, but adopting a servant heart, modeled by Christ, offers a path toward renewal and peace. Jesus, the ultimate servant, shows us that surrender, humility, and selfless service are not just solutions to personal problems, but also the key to resolving larger societal ills. This chapter explores how embracing God's servant heart is the way out of despair, brokenness, and division, and the way into a life of meaning, hope, and purpose.

The Way Out of Self-Centeredness

One of the greatest challenges we face today is a culture of self-centeredness. From social media to politics, society encourages individuals to prioritize their own desires, ambitions, and comfort over the needs of others. However, this self-focus often leads to feelings of emptiness, loneliness, and dissatisfaction. Jesus offers a way out of this cycle by calling us to live with a servant heart, shifting our focus from ourselves to others.

In **Matthew 16:24**, Jesus teaches, ***"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."*** Denying oneself means relinquishing selfish desires and adopting a heart of service, modeled after Christ's example. This is not just a command but an invitation to experience the fullness of life that comes from serving others. By following this path, we find freedom from the burdens of selfishness and the joy of living for God's purposes.

Jesus explains in **Matthew 20:26-28**, ***"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."*** Through serving others, we discover the true meaning of greatness—not in power or prestige, but in humble acts of love and kindness.

The Way Out of Division and Conflict

Division and conflict are ever-present in our world, from personal relationships to global issues. Whether it's political strife, family discord, or social injustice, humanity has long struggled with disunity. Jesus' servant heart provides the way out of conflict and into peace through humility, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

In **Matthew 5:9**, Jesus blesses peacemakers, saying, ***"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."*** Peacemaking is not

passive—it requires active service and a willingness to put others' needs ahead of our own pride or ego. By humbling ourselves and seeking reconciliation, we reflect the heart of Christ and pave the way for healing and unity.

Jesus also emphasizes the importance of forgiveness in resolving conflict. In **Matthew 6:14-15**, He teaches, ***“For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”*** The servant heart is quick to forgive, understanding that holding onto bitterness only perpetuates division. Through forgiveness, we release ourselves and others from the bondage of resentment and open the door to peace.

The Way Out of Despair

In moments of despair, loss, or confusion, it's easy to feel overwhelmed and hopeless. However, the servant heart of God offers a way out of despair through the promise of His presence, purpose, and love. Jesus reassures us that when we follow His example of selflessness and service, we find not only relief but renewed hope.

In **Matthew 11:28-30**, Jesus extends an invitation to those burdened by life's struggles: ***“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”*** Here, Jesus shows that His servant heart is one of compassion and care. When we come to Him in our despair, we find comfort and strength.

Furthermore, by serving others even in our times of pain we can find healing. In **Isaiah 58:10**, we are told, ***“If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday.”*** Serving others shifts our focus from our own suffering to the needs of those around us, and in doing so, God brings light into our own darkness.

The Way Out of Brokenness

Brokenness—whether in relationships, personal failures, or societal structures—is something everyone experiences. Yet, the servant heart of God shows us how to move forward. Through love, grace, and selfless service, we can find restoration in the face of brokenness.

Jesus' ministry was marked by His willingness to serve those who were broken—both physically and spiritually. In **Luke 4:18-19**, Jesus declares, ***“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”*** Jesus came to heal, restore, and bring freedom. By embracing a servant's heart, we participate in this mission of restoration.

Moreover, in **2 Corinthians 5:18**, Paul reminds us of our role in the ministry of reconciliation: ***“All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.”*** Whether in our personal relationships or in addressing larger societal brokenness, we are called to be agents of reconciliation, seeking to heal wounds through acts of love and service.

The Way Out Through Christ's Example

Ultimately, the way out of every struggle—whether personal, relational, or societal—comes through following the example of Jesus Christ. Jesus did not just teach servanthood; He lived it. His life, death, and resurrection are the ultimate demonstrations of God's servant heart. In **John 13:14-15**, after washing His disciples' feet, Jesus says, ***“Now that 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.”***

By following Christ's example, we find the way out of self-centeredness, despair, and brokenness, and into a life of purpose, peace, and healing. In **Philippians 2:3-5**, Paul encourages believers to embrace Christ's mindset: ***“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.”***

This mindset of humility and service is the key to overcoming life's greatest challenges. As we follow Jesus' example, we not only experience personal transformation but also become agents of change in the world around us.

God's Servant Heart – Our Path to Renewal

God's servant heart is the way out of the struggles and brokenness we face in life. Whether it's overcoming selfishness, division, or despair, embracing a life of service brings healing and hope. Jesus showed us that through humility, love, and sacrifice, we can find freedom, peace, and purpose.

As we walk in the servant heart of Christ, we are not only transformed ourselves but also empowered to transform the world around us. In **John 12:26**, Jesus promises, ***"Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me."*** Through this promise, we are reminded that following the way of the servant heart leads to eternal reward and a deeper relationship with God.

Let us follow Christ's example, serving with humility and love, and discover the way out of life's struggles and into the fullness of God's peace, joy, and purpose

CHAPTER 8

GOD'S SERVANT HEART – OUR WINNING TOOLS

In a world that often equates winning with personal achievement, wealth, and status, the principles of God's servant heart offer a radically different approach. Through humility, love, and selfless service, we discover that true victory is not in worldly success but in fulfilling God's purpose. These attributes drawn from the servant heart of Jesus become the "winning tools" that enable us to triumph over

life's challenges, build meaningful relationships, and live a life that honors God. This chapter explores how God's servant heart equips us with the tools we need to "win" in the most profound sense, both spiritually and practically.

Humility: The Key to Exaltation

One of the most countercultural teachings of Jesus is the idea that true greatness comes through humility. In God's kingdom, the way up is down. **James 4:10** says, ***"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up."*** Humility is not about thinking less of ourselves but about thinking of ourselves less. It is the foundation of a servant heart and the key to unlocking God's favor and blessing in our lives.

Jesus exemplified this humility, even though He was the Son of God. In **Philippians 2:5-8**, Paul describes Jesus' attitude: ***"In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to His own advantage; rather, He made Himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!"***

Through humility, Jesus accomplished the greatest victory—over sin and death. By embracing humility, we too are positioned to experience God's favor and be lifted up in His timing.

Love: The Greatest Commandment

Love is the most powerful tool we have as followers of Christ. It is the essence of God's servant heart and the driving force behind all true service. Jesus declared love to be the greatest commandment, saying in **Matthew 22:37-39**, ***"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"***

Through love, we fulfill God's law and reflect His nature. **1 John 4:7-8** reminds us, ***"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not***

know God, because God is love.” This love is not merely an emotion but an action that seeks the good of others, regardless of how we feel or what we might receive in return.

Love enables us to overcome the barriers that divide people—whether they are social, racial, or cultural. **1 Peter 4:8** says, ***“Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.”*** When we serve others in love, we build bridges and demonstrate the transforming power of the Gospel.

Service: The Path to True Leadership

In the world’s view, leadership is often associated with authority, control, and recognition. But in God’s kingdom, true leadership is defined by service. Jesus radically redefined leadership when He washed His disciples’ feet, a task that was traditionally reserved for the lowest servants. In **John 13:14-15**, He said, ***“Now that 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.”***

By serving others, we demonstrate the leadership model that Jesus Himself followed. He taught His disciples that to lead is to serve. **Matthew 20:26-28** reminds us, ***“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.”***

Service is the tool that allows us to lead in a way that honors God and impacts the world. When we serve with a genuine heart, we earn the trust and respect of others, paving the way for influence that is grounded in humility, not power.

Faith: Trusting in God’s Provision

Faith is another essential tool for living out God’s servant heart. A servant heart trusts that God will provide all that is needed whether strength, resources, or wisdom when we step out in obedience to serve others. **Hebrews 11:1** defines faith as, ***“confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not***

see.” When we serve with faith, we are confident that God will work through us, even when the task seems overwhelming or the results are uncertain.

Jesus encouraged His followers to trust in God’s provision. In **Matthew 6:31-33**, He said, ***“So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”***

A servant heart relies on God’s strength rather than our own abilities. **Philippians 4:13** reminds us, ***“I can do all this through Him who gives me strength.”*** By placing our trust in God, we are empowered to serve with boldness, knowing that He will equip us for every good work.

Forgiveness: Breaking the Chains of Bitterness

One of the greatest hindrances to a servant heart is unforgiveness. Holding onto grudges, anger, or resentment toward others can prevent us from serving with a pure heart. But God has given us the powerful tool of forgiveness, enabling us to release others from the debts they owe us and break free from the chains of bitterness.

Jesus taught extensively on the importance of forgiveness. In **Matthew 6:14-15**, He said, ***“For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”*** Forgiveness is not an option for those who follow Christ—it is a command that reflects God’s own heart of mercy.

In **Colossians 3:13**, Paul encourages believers to, ***“Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.”*** When we forgive, we free ourselves from the burden of anger and make room for God’s peace and healing in our hearts.

Prayer: Connecting with God’s Heart

Prayer is one of the most powerful tools for living out God's servant heart. Through prayer, we align our hearts with God's purposes and receive His guidance for how to serve others. **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18** encourages us to, ***"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."*** A servant heart is constantly in tune with God through prayer, seeking His will and asking for His help in fulfilling His call to serve.

Jesus demonstrated the importance of prayer throughout His life. Before making important decisions or facing difficult situations, He would withdraw to pray. **Luke 5:16** says, ***"But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed."*** Prayer was His way of staying connected to the Father and drawing strength for His mission.

For us, prayer equips us to serve with wisdom, love, and humility. It is through prayer that we receive the peace, courage, and direction we need to carry out God's will in our daily lives.

God's Servant Heart – The Tools for Victory

In a world that measures success by power, wealth, and achievement, God's servant heart offers a different path to victory. Humility, love, service, faith, forgiveness, and prayer are the tools that allow us to "win" in the most meaningful sense—by fulfilling God's purpose for our lives and making an eternal impact on those around us.

By adopting these tools, we not only experience personal transformation but also become agents of change in a world that desperately needs the love and hope of Christ. As Jesus said in **Matthew 16:25**, ***"For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for Me will find it."*** The true victory comes not from pursuing our own ambitions, but from laying down our lives in service to God and others.

Through God's servant heart, we find the tools we need to live a life of purpose, love, and victory in Him.

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