

Building a Christian Community

"Serve One Another"

Galatians 5:13, John 13:1-20

Introduction

Last week we began a series of messages on Building a Christian Community. We talked about how the church is not a building; it's a body of related believers. We also talked about how we must affirm and develop our spiritual gifts and learn to share them with one another so the body of Christ can function in unity. Just as the physical body comprises individual organs that work together as one, the church, as the spiritual body of Christ, is comprised of individual members that must learn to work together as one to accomplish the purposes of Christ.

1. The church, as the body of Christ, is alive because we are _____ to the living Christ.
2. The _____ life is a life lived according to God's purpose.
3. Today we're going to gain understanding of what Jesus means when he says, "_____ one another" and then "love one another."
4. This kind of love is expressed in what we call _____. (Galatians 5:13)

I. Discover Servanthood

5. The best teaching on the servanthood comes from the _____ Himself.
6. In John 13, Jesus focus is entirely different from that of the _____.

7. Jesus would soon face the fracturing of the _____ relationship he always had with God the Father.
8. Jesus knew that he would have to identify and take upon himself all of the _____ of humanity.
9. As our _____, Jesus was going to experience the righteous anger of God.
10. The disciples are sitting at the table waiting for the meal, and they've all got _____ feet.
11. The question for the disciples was, "Who is going to take the _____ role and wash feet?"
12. Not one of them wanted to lose face and _____ the others, all the while, arguing over who is the greatest disciple!
13. By contrast, Jesus is trying to garner enough courage to go to the _____ for these very guys.
14. Jesus surrenders his expectations of encouragement and fellowship and once again takes up the role of the _____.
15. When Jesus gets to Peter, Peter _____.
16. Jesus is the one person they all thought should _____ do the job.
17. Clearly, there is the _____ of the forgiveness Christ will provide for all of us by washing away our sins.
18. Setting aside your pride is the one requirement for God's _____.

19. Jesus points to this demonstration of love and says,
"This is your example of authentic _____."

20. Jesus also sets aside his own _____ for the sake
of furthering God's purposes in their lives!

II. Pursue Servanthood

21. Serving is true _____.

22. Blessed is God literally extending Himself and His
benefits, conferring what He deems _____
valuable.

23. There is a connection between exercising serving love
and our happiness, fullness, and fulfillment in
_____.

24. We are designed to live in a community of
relationships based on serving _____.

25. Jesus suggests that we will have a _____ life
without getting anything back from others if we learn
to serve in love.

26. Jesus teaches that servanthood IS true
_____!

27. God personally _____ us to join Him in a
relationship of love and service.

28. Jesus wants you to put your life and energy into
something that will be honored for all _____.

III. Demonstrate Servanthood

29. Christ also wants us to become effective in
_____ and teaching others servanthood.

30. Servanthood requires a _____ on God vs. philanthropy, which is giving out of your own resources.

31. Jesus _____ a focus of dependence on God that we can apply directly.

32. It also involves _____ yourself vs. self-protection or selfishness!

33. God is calling us to deny self-protection and pursue a level of _____ that involves self-denial!

Conclusion

If you're wondering where to get started developing this area of servanthood in your life, let me make a practical suggestion. Why not find a couple of other people who want to grow and become better disciples and pick a day and time to get together and learn the Bible. As you go to each meeting, challenge each other to take advantage of the opportunity to serve others and become better equipped as a follower of Christ. Hold yourself accountable get involved with experienced members of the group who can challenge you to be effective in your service!

ANSWERS

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|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Connected | 12. Serve | 23. Christ |
| 2. Transformed | 13. Cross | 24. Love |
| 3. Serve | 14. Teacher | 25. Blessed |
| 4. Servanthood | 15. Refuses | 26. Greatness |
| 5. Master | 16. Not | 27. Invites |
| 6. Disciples | 17. Picture | 28. Eternity |
| 7. Love | 18. Acceptance | 29. Modeling |
| 8. Evil | 19. Servanthood | 30. Dependence |
| 9. Substitute | 20. Needs | 31. Models |
| 10. Dirty | 21. Fulfillment | 32. Denying |
| 11. Lowly | 22. Eternally | 33. Servanthood |