



Servanthood

*Lord, help me to remember to be hospitable to whomever I meet.
Amen.*

Blessing

JUNE 24. 2017

Now the Lord said to Abram, ‘Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’

Genesis 12:1-3

Blessing has the characteristic of flowing (from me to others).

Abundance has the characteristic of overflowing. Abraham was a blessed person because God said all the families of the earth would be blessed in him. The most blessed person is the person who blesses others. That is the meaning of blessing. Being blessed is not about me getting all the blessings but about blessing people around me.

In that sense, Jesus was the most blessed person. He blessed all of us.

Today, I pray that somebody will be blessed through me.

Lord, as you blessed me, help me bless somebody today. Amen.

Let Us Value Each Other

JUNE 29, 2017

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Philippians 2:3-4

How we treat others is our fundamental value. Jesus taught us a very important lesson. He uplifted the value of people whom the world considered worthless.

As we affirm each other's preciousness, the value of our life gets restored. As I value the other person, I become valuable. But when I devalue the other person, I become devalued.

I hope this day that people whom I meet may feel valued through me.

Lord, help me see the beauty in the people whom I meet today. Amen.

Let Us Value Each Other

JUNE 29. 2017

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Hebrews 13:1, 2

Memory Verse: “Do not neglect to show hospitality to stranger...” (Hebrews 13:2)

We should always practice our hospitality, especially to those whom we don't know. We don't know whom we will meet. We don't know how powerfully our hospitality can impact others. Through our hospitality, God's mysterious works may be done.

*Lord, help me to remember to be hospitable to whomever I meet.
Amen.*

Being Clean

JULY 20, 2017

While he was speaking, a Pharisee invited him to dine with him; so he went in and took his place at the table. The Pharisee was amazed to see that he did not first wash before dinner. Then the Lord said to him, ‘Now you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. You fools! Did not the one who made the outside make the inside also? So give for alms those things that are within; and see, everything will be clean for you.

Luke 11:37-41

We ought to live a clean life. When I take a shower, I feel good because I feel clean. When I organize my room and clean it, I feel good because I feel clean.

But real cleanliness is in our heart. This cannot be done by taking a shower or cleaning our room. We have greed within us. Our greed makes us unclean.

The best way to overcome our greed is to share what we have with others. When we share our abundance with others, we become clean.

Let us live today sharing what we have with others.

Lord, thank you for the abundance that you gave me. Let not my abundance make me dirty by creating greed within me. Help me live a clean life sharing my abundance with others. Amen.

Alms-giving

JULY 22, 2017

But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Matthew 6:3-4

The flesh whines against service but screams against hidden service.

Richard Foster

The most beautiful alms-giving happens behind the scene. The alms-giving that is visible makes us feel good but the alms-giving that is hidden makes our soul pure.

Lord, purify my soul. Let my life be the life of giving. Amen.

Serving

JULY 23, 2017

...the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Matthew 20:28

Don't try not to sin but to serve others. Grace of humility will slip in upon us unawares.

William Law

The image of serving others is the most beautiful image of a human being. The most beautiful hands are the hands that serve and the hands that pray. As we gather our hands together, we pray. As we open our hands, we serve others. Our life should move back and forth between these two. Then our hands become holy hands.

Lord, help me not to lord over others but to serve them. Amen.

A Gentle Touch

AUGUST 8, 2017

As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

Isaiah 66:13

A mother's love is special; it is gentle, tender and warm. That is why her love can comfort us. Isaiah describes God's love as a mother's love. We see a mother image of God, a feminine image that we are not very familiar with.

We live in a harsh world that forces us to be on our guard. We see violence and abuse all around us. As a result, we become cold and hardened.

We all need God's gentle touch. God will embrace us like a mother embracing her child with caresses. We need to restore the gentleness and the tenderness in this world.

Lord, thank you for being merciful to me. As you have been merciful to me, help me also to be merciful to others. Amen.

A Bigger Person

AUGUST 8, 2017

But Jesus called them to him and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave.

Matthew 20:25-27

Life’s most urgent and persistent question is ‘What are you doing for others?’

Martin Luther King Jr.

Life is not about winning; life is about sharing. We share what we have with others. If we have money, we share with those who have no money. If we have the power, we share with those who have no power. If we have time, we share with those who have no time. If we are a big person, we share life with a small person.

Only a bigger person can serve.

Lord, help me to be a bigger person. Amen.

Dignity, Respect, and Love

AUGUST 17, 2017

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

1 John 4:7-8

No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.

Nelson Mandela

Every single person we meet, we should treat him/her with dignity, respect, and love. That is how a human being should interact with another human being. When we do that, we can restore our humanity.

Hatred, bigotry, and violence destroy our humanity.

Lord, strengthen me to treat others with dignity, respect, and love.

Amen.

Us and Them

AUGUST 20, 2017

As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect.

1 Corinthians 12:20-23

In troubled times, there's a tendency to turn inwards and say 'at least we understand our own people.' There's also a tendency, which is very unfortunate, to demonize others for whatever reason. It happened in Germany in the late 1920s and 1930s, and it happened in other times in other places.

Prof. MacMillan

The world is becoming divided by "Us and Them." Instead of accepting, celebrating, and learning from each other's differences, people use these differences to alienate, hate and even kill each other.

We, human beings, have to learn to live with others. We can survive only when we know how to live with others. We cannot survive if we do not accept each other.

Others' weaknesses should not be the reason to oppress them. We should share our weaknesses with each other and together make not-so-beautiful things beautiful.

Lord, heal this world. Amen.

Relationships

AUGUST 22, 2017

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

Psalm 133:1

Relationships are very important. The most important thing in a relationship is being considerate of others. Those who are self-centred cannot maintain meaningful relationships. When people are loved, they come to realize how important relationships are and they value relationships.

Being loved, considerate, encouraging and respectful are important aspects in building good relationships. Those who have meaningful relationships are wise people and their lives will be full of joy and happiness.

Lord, grant me wisdom to value relationships in my life. Amen.

Debt of Love

AUGUST 25, 2017

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

Romans 13:8

Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth.

Muhammad Ali

We are all loved by someone. We are indebted to those who have loved us.

We are indebted to our parents and to everyone who has prayed for us, cared for us, and sacrificed for us.

The true ethics is the ethics of love. People who love others have fulfilled the law. The principle that summarizes the law in one phrase is to love others.

That is the path to happiness and a blessed life.

Lord, I am thankful for all the people who have loved me, and I lift them up in prayer. Help me to live my life, paying back all the love I have received. Amen.

Being Connected

AUGUST 27, 2017

Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:4-5

I am not alone. I am not an island. I am connected to God, to my neighbors, and to the universe.

Love is being connected. When we feel that we are deeply connected with someone, we know that we are loved.

Embrace; embrace God, neighbors, and the universe. That is love.

Lord, just as you have embraced and accepted me, help me to embrace and accept those around me. Amen.

The Powerful and The Weak

AUGUST 29, 2017

We who are strong ought to put up with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. ²Each of us must please our neighbour for the good purpose of building up the neighbour.

Romans 15:1-2

In this world, we have those with the power and those without it. The existence of this power imbalance is the inevitable reality. The problem is not that we have the weak and the powerful, but that the powerful oppresses, controls and exploits the weak.

Those with power must take care of the weak. The Apostle Paul teaches us not to please ourselves but our neighbors. Jesus taught us to love our neighbors, especially the weak neighbors.

Sharing the power is what the humanity is all about.

Lord, steer us away from the ways of the world that operate by the power but help us to follow your teachings that are governed by love.

Amen.

Sweet Fragrance

AUGUST 31, 2017

See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:15-18

We should live rejoicing always, praying without ceasing and giving thanks in all circumstances. In doing so our life will be a sweet fragrance to those around us. Even if we can't do much for them, they will find encouragement and strength through our pleasant presence.

Joy pushes away their darkness, prayer will build them up and being thankful will bring warmth to those around us.

This is a life that always seeks to do good and doesn't repay evil for evil.

Lord, help me to live a life that encourages others. I pray that I may live in peace with others, rejoicing, praying, and giving thanks.

Amen.

Words That Open Up the Future

SEPTEMBER 7, 2017

Words spoken by the wise bring them favour, but the lips of fools consume them. The words of their mouths begin in foolishness, and their talk ends in wicked madness; yet fools talk on and on. No one knows what is to happen, and who can tell anyone what the future holds?

Eccelesiastes 10:12-14

The more words, the less wisdom.

It is foolishness to speak freely and spontaneously without knowing what the future holds or what kind of future one's words may create.

We wish that our words become precious words that open up a beautiful future. We don't need many words. We just need few words that are meaningful and helpful in paving somebody's beautiful future.

Those words were the words of the prophets.

Lord, I hear every day the abuse and the violence of words in the world I live. I pray that my words become the words that are helpful in opening up somebody's beautiful future. Amen.

Justice

SEPTEMBER 14, 2017

Even though you offer me your burnt-offerings and grain-offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.?

Amos 5:22-24

Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach

Amos 5:22-24

What God wants is justice, not our gifts. Justice doesn't oppress the weak with power, exploit the poor for one's personal gain, nor does it look down on sinners with contempt.

In an individualistic society where one believes that everything has been achieved by one's own strength and free will, people often mistakenly think that it is all right for those with power to oppress the weak, the rich to exploit the poor, and the righteous to condemn the sinner. In other words, God's justice is blatantly being ignored.

Jesus came to this world to give strength to the weak, to bless the poor, and to forgive the sinners.

Lord, I pray that this world be a place where justice will roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amen.

Jesus' Life Principle

SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9

This was the life of Jesus that Apostle Paul saw. Although he was rich he became poor for our sake, so that by his poverty we might become rich.

This does not apply only to wealth. This applies to every aspect of our lives. It is the same as when the wise humbles oneself to acknowledge others' wisdom and enrich their wisdom further. Similar to when the powerful lets go of his/her power for the sake of empowering the weak.

These were the life principles of Jesus. This is the kind of leadership this world desperately needs. If we lose these principles of Jesus, then this world will fall into chaos. We will succumb to the evil.

Lord, you washed our feet in freedom. You came as a servant and lived a life of a servant. Give me the freedom to be a servant. Amen.

Freedom to Become Servants

OCTOBER 31, 2017

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another.

Galatians 5:13

Freedom does not mean to do whatever we want. True freedom means to be free from what binds us. In a way, true freedom is to be free from our desire to do whatever we want.

How wonderful it is to be free to even take the position of servants!

Lord, you washed our feet in freedom. You came as a servant and lived a life of a servant. Give me the freedom to be a servant. Amen.

Bear Each Other's Burdens

NOVEMBER 1, 2018

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ. For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbour's work, will become a cause for pride. For all must carry their own loads.

Galatians 6:2-5

We are not alone. At times, we try to deal with things on our own, but life isn't like that. There are people who lift us up when we are down, stay with us when we feel alone, and bind us up when we are hurt.

Life is about bearing each other's burdens.

Lord, thank you. Just as you have carried my burdens through those around me, help me to follow you by bearing other people's burdens.

Amen

Greatness of Serving

NOVEMBER 2, 2018

But now we are discharged from the law, dead to that which held us captive, so that we are slaves not under the old written code but in the new life of the Spirit.

Romans 7:6

One of the immortal infantile wishes...the wish to become great.

Sigmund Freud

True service can be done only in freedom. When we are renewed and free in Spirit, we can serve others. What is holding us captive? Isn't it the infantile wish to be great? When we are free from the infantile wish, we can live a life of serving.

Lord, help me be free from my infantile wishes. Help me to find the joy of simply serving others. Amen

Serving Others

NOVEMBER 27, 2018

I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known...

Colossians 1:24-25

St. Paul truly loved the church. He said he was rejoicing in his sufferings for the people at Colossae. To St. Paul, the church was the body of Christ. The church is not an institution or a system; church is the people of God.

“The people of God” is the body of Christ.

How beautiful it is for one to take care of the people and pray for them! It is our call to suffer with those who suffer, comfort them, visit them and serve them. That is what the spiritual community looks like.

Lord, I thank you for the people who took care of me when I was weak, hurting and in darkness. Amen

Put Yourself Into It

DECEMBER 7, 2017

Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord and not for your masters, since you know that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward; you serve the Lord Christ.

Colossians 3:23-24

In our lives, it is important to be always conscious of Christ. Whatever we do, we should do it being conscious of Christ. Then, we can put all of ourselves into it. Being able to put all of ourselves into what we do is one of the greatest ability and the ability is possible when we do it as though we do it for the Lord. We will experience the results beyond our imagination.

Lord, guide me to live always being conscious of you. Amen

The Birth of John the Baptist

Announced

DECEMBER 15, 2017

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years. Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense-offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.' Zechariah said to the angel, 'How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years.' The angel replied, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to

Luke 1:5-20

When Mary was pregnant with Jesus, she heard the message that came from her womb. She knew what her child would do when he was born in this world.

God scattered the proud, brought down the powerful, and sent the rich away empty. He lifted up the lowly and filled the hungry with good things. Mary had a very different idea from the idea of the world. She also knew that her son would fulfill exactly what she imagined.

Lord, thank you for sending John the Baptist to us. May we share the good news of joy with many people during this Christmas season.

Amen

My Soul Magnifies the Lord

DECEMBER 17, 2017

And Mary said, ‘My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.’ And Mary remained with her for about three months and then returned to her home.

Luke 1:46-56

When Mary was pregnant with Jesus, she heard the message that came from her womb. She knew what her child would do when he was born in this world.

God scattered the proud, brought down the powerful, and sent the rich away empty. He lifted up the lowly and filled the hungry with good things.

Mary had a very different idea from the idea of the world. She also knew that her son would fulfill exactly what she imagined.

Lord, may I not follow the world, but help me to follow Jesus. Amen

Where is my King?

DECEMBER 24, 2017

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.’ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, ‘Out of Egypt I have called my son.’

The Massacre of the Infants

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet

Jeremiah:

‘A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.’

Matthew 2:13-18

Memory Verse: “Do not seek your own advantage, but that of others.” (1 Corinthians 10:24)

The wise men asked king Herod where the child was who was born king of the Jews. The wise men didn’t seem to be so wise. Because of their question, so many innocent children lost their lives. They assumed that the king would be born where the power was.

Where is our King? Where are we looking for our King?

Almost at the end of his book, Matthew recorded this: “for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” (Matthew 25:35-36)

Lord, help me find you in my sisters and brothers who are suffering.

Amen.

Being Considerate

JANUARY 24, 2018

‘All things are lawful’, but not all things are beneficial. ‘All things are lawful’, but not all things build up. Do not seek your own advantage, but that of others.

1 Corinthians 10:23-24

Memory Verse: “Do not seek your own advantage, but that of others.” (1 Corinthians 10:24)

How beautiful it is to see a life that is being considerate of others. It sounds simple but it is not that simple. Behind the considerate heart, there are deep thoughts and care about other people. If we speak and act from deep consideration of other people, we can make many people’s lives happy and joyful.

Lord, help me to live a life that is governed not by my feelings but by deep consideration of others. Amen.

Life That is Exalted

FEBRUARY 27, 2018

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, ‘The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat; therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practise what they teach. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. They do all their deeds to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. They love to have the place of honour at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues, and to be greeted with respect in the market-places, and to have people call them rabbi. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students. And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. The greatest among you will be your servant. All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.

Matthew 23:1-12

Memory Verse: All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted. (Matthew 23:12)

The greatest person is the one who serves others. Without the attitude of serving others, we cannot be great people. A person who tries to exalt oneself will never become exalted. You can only be exalted when others exalt you. When we live a life of serving others, we will be exalted by those who know the greatness of serving.

Lord, help me not to exalt myself but instead serve others with humility. Amen.

Hospitality

MARCH 23, 2018

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Hebrews 13:1, 2

Memory Verse: “Do not neglect to show hospitality to stranger...” (Hebrews 13:2)

We should always practice our hospitality, especially to those whom we don't know. We don't know whom we will meet. We don't know how powerfully our hospitality can impact others. Through our hospitality, God's mysterious works may be done.

*Lord, help me to remember to be hospitable to whomever I meet.
Amen.*

Washing Feet and Serving

MARCH 29, 2018

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, ‘Do you know what I have done to you? 13You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. 14So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. 15For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. 16Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. 17If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

John 13:12-17

Memory Verse: “So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet..” (John 13:14)

Washing somebody’s feet can be humiliating. But Jesus washed the feet of his disciples. That is what true serving looks like. There can be no serving if we do not humble ourselves. Serving is not a specific thing that we do for others. When we do anything for others with the attitude of humility, that is what serving is.

Lord, help me to treat others with a serving attitude. Amen.

A Witness of the Resurrection

APRIL 7, 2018

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized them as companions of Jesus. When they saw the man who had been cured standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition. So they ordered them to leave the council while they discussed the matter with one another. They said, ‘What will we do with them? For it is obvious to all who live in Jerusalem that a notable sign has been done through them; we cannot deny it. But to keep it from spreading further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.’ So they called them and ordered them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered them, ‘Whether it is right in God’s sight to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge; for we cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard.’

Acts 4:13-20

Memory Verse: “We cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard” (Acts 4:20)

The power of the resurrection cannot be restrained by the authority of the rulers of the world. The power of life has the power to move forth.

The power of life moves forth by the witnesses of the people who experienced the power of life. Peter said, “We cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard.” Through witnesses like Peter, the power of life moves forth. Let us live as a witness of the resurrection.

Lord, help me to live boldly proclaiming the power of life. Amen.

Heart Like an Ocean

MAY 22, 2018

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, ‘What were you arguing about on the way?’ But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, ‘Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.’ Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ‘Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.’

Mark 9:33-37

Memory Verse: “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” (Mark 9:35)

Becoming a bigger person is important and it comes from our desire to serve. Serving comes from a big heart. A big heart is a heart like an ocean. Like an ocean that sits at the bottom but embraces all the water from small rivers, serving involves embracing, understanding, forgiving, and loving. That is the heart of serving. A person who serves has a heart like an ocean.

Lord, in serving, help me to learn to have a heart like yours. Amen.

Life With Passion

JUNE 30, 2018

Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.

Romans 12:11

Life without passion is not true life. Life always brings out the vitality. There has to be a movement of life within us like a fetus moving within the womb of a mother. We have to have something to pursue, something to achieve, and we have to have the confidence that we can do it.

In our life, there has to be dreams. Along with the dreams, there has to be the passion to support our dreams.

Without our dreams, our passion loses its power. Without passion, our dreams become vanity.

Good Morning! Let us get up, rise and run!

Lord who gives me dreams, give me also the passion to let the dreams come alive in my life. Amen.