



## The Energizing of Service

Mark 10:35-45

**Listen!** “I demand some service!”

- At a store, restaurant, hotel, shop, garage, business, home, school, church.

**Why talk about this?** We travel a very short road from a gentle tap on the bell to multiple angry shots on the bell—a very short road from the gracious “Anybody here?” to angry “I demand some service.” “Demanding service” is 180 degrees out from where Jesus tells us to be.

- Reason A (minor reason): Our culture and commerce train us to be impatient.
- Reason B (major reason): We are selfish.
- Reason C (major reason): We often forget our identity.

Mark 10:35-45:

- Grant that we:
- Cup and baptism:
- You shall drink:
- But to sit on the right:
- Indignant:
- Lording and exercising:
- Contrast:
- Servant:
- Slave:
- Of all:
- Supreme Example: The Son of Man.

**Idea:** The spiritual discipline of service is an inner decision to be the servant of all that results in an outer lifestyle of serving all.

- Don’t miss this: It begins with an inner decision/commitment/driven stake/heart-level determination.

## Serving 101: Basic Truths for Servants:

- Service is only properly done in dependence on Christ.
- Service is only properly done without regard to the size of the act.
- Service is only properly done “as unto the Lord.”
- Service is only properly done while striving for hiddenness—without seeking personal reward.
- Service is only properly done when I have inwardly adopted the identity of a servant.
- Service is only properly done as serving my Best Friend.
- Service has thousands of faces: listening, hospitality, kindness, giving, cleaning, forgiving, helping, fixing, being served with gratitude, overlooking, picking up, forgetting, restoring, helping, painting, courtesy, guarding reputations, cooking, mowing, repairing, maintaining, protecting, assuring, ...

### **For Instance:**

- - - - -

## “Walking Papers”

Practical helps for walking the Christian walk this week.

**The Central Idea:** The spiritual discipline of service is an inner decision to be the servant of all that results in an outer lifestyle of serving all.

**Following Christ is a daily deal.** Please take some time each day this week to think through these questions and ideas:

- **Today.** Is the Spirit drawing you to serve in CityFest '06?
- **Monday.** Is the Spirit drawing you to help with the CBC Vision Path?
- **Tuesday.** Is the Spirit drawing you to help a family fix up their home?
- **Wednesday.** Is the Spirit drawing you to help with our stage renovation?
- **Thursday.** Is the Spirit drawing you to a habit of secret giving?
- **Friday.** Is the Spirit drawing you to a huge, sacrificial act of service?
- **Saturday.** Is the Spirit drawing you to adopt the identity of servant of all?

*Service is best done as “unto my Best Friend.”*