

## The Greatest Among Us Shall be Servant of All

(Mark 9.35)

**Jn 12:25-26** Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.  
<sup>26</sup> If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

**Matt 18:1-4** ¶ At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”  
<sup>2</sup> And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them <sup>3</sup> and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup> Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

**Matt 20:25-28** But Jesus called them to him and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. <sup>26</sup> It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, {*Greek diakonos*}<sup>27</sup> and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, {*Greek bondservant (doulos)*}<sup>28</sup> even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

**Matt 23:2-12** “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat, <sup>3</sup> so practice and observe whatever they tell you—but not what they do. For they preach, but do not practice. <sup>4</sup> They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, {*Some manuscripts omit hard to bear*} and lay them on people’s shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger. <sup>5</sup> They do all their deeds to be seen by others. For they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, <sup>6</sup> and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues <sup>7</sup> and greetings in the marketplaces and being called rabbi {*Rabbi means my teacher, or my master; also verse 8*} by others. <sup>8</sup> But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers. {*Or brothers and sisters*}<sup>9</sup> And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. <sup>10</sup> Neither be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Christ [see *1Th 4:9*]. <sup>11</sup> The greatest among you shall be your servant. <sup>12</sup> Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

**Luk 12:35-44** “Stay dressed for action {*Greek Let your loins stay girded; compare Ex 12:11*} and keep your lamps burning, <sup>36</sup> and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup> Blessed are those servants {*Greek bondservants*} whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup> If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! <sup>39</sup> But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he {*Some manuscripts add would have stayed awake and*} would not have left his house to be broken into. <sup>40</sup> You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

<sup>41</sup> ¶ Peter said, “Lord, are you telling this parable for us or for all?” <sup>42</sup> And the Lord said, “Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom his master will set over his household, to give them their portion of food at the proper time? <sup>43</sup> Blessed is that servant {*Greek bondservant; also verses 45, 46, 47*} whom his master will find so doing when he comes. <sup>44</sup> Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions.

**Luk 17:7-10** “Will any one of you who has a servant {*Greek bondservant; also verse 9*} plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, ‘Come at once and recline at table’? <sup>8</sup> Will he not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, {*Greek gird yourself*} and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink’? <sup>9</sup> Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? <sup>10</sup> So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, ‘We are unworthy servants; {*Greek bondservants*} we have only done what was our duty.’”

**Luk 22:31** “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, *{The Greek word for you (twice in this verse) is plural; in verse 32, all four instances are singular}* that he might sift you like wheat,<sup>32</sup> but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.”

**Rom 14:17-21** For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit,<sup>18</sup> because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by men.<sup>19</sup> Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.<sup>20</sup> Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All food is clean, but it is wrong for a man to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble.<sup>21</sup> It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother to fall.

**Phil 2:3** Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

**Phil 2:5-9** Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus {or which was also in Christ Jesus},<sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped {or held onto},<sup>7</sup> but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.<sup>8</sup> And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.<sup>9</sup> Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,

**Jms 5:19-20** My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back,<sup>20</sup> let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death *{or the debilitating misery that arises from sin}* and will cover a multitude of sins.

**1Pe 2:16-18** Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants *{Greek bondservants}* of God.<sup>17</sup> Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.<sup>18</sup> Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust.

*All verses are taken from the ESV*

### SELECTED ONE-ANOTHER VERSES (NIV)

**Rom 12:10** Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.

**Rom 12:16** Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

**Rom 13:8** Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law.

**Rom 14:13** Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother's way.

**Rom 15:7** Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

**Rom 15:14** I myself am convinced, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, complete in knowledge and competent to instruct one another.

**1 Cor 1:10** I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought.

**Gal 5:13-15** You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love.<sup>14</sup> The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor

as yourself." <sup>15</sup> If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

**Eph 4:2-3** Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. <sup>3</sup> Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

**Eph 4:32** Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

**Eph 5:19-20** Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, <sup>20</sup> always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Eph 5:19:21** Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

**Col 3:13** Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

**Col 3:16** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

**1 Thess 5:11-15** Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. <sup>12</sup> Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. <sup>13</sup> Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. <sup>14</sup> And we urge you, brothers, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone. <sup>15</sup> Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else.

**Heb 3:13** But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

**Heb 10:24** And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

**James 4:11** Brothers, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it.

**1 Peter 1:22** Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. {*or from a pure heart*}

**1 Peter 3:8-9** Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. <sup>9</sup> Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

**1 Peter 4:9-10** Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. <sup>10</sup> Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

**1 Peter 5:5** Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

**1 John 4:11-12** Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

**2 John 5-6** And now, dear lady, I am not writing you a new command but one we have had from the beginning. I ask that we love one another. <sup>6</sup> And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love.