

## PRAYER

- Ask God to check your hearts for any form of pride and pray that He will transform your attitudes and thinking according to His ways specifically in leadership.

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- Pray within your group for opportunities to serve in your family, church, and community. Pray that as you serve, people around you will see and know Jesus more.

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- Intercede for government leaders and other people in authority that they will always have wisdom, a heart of service, and that they will continue to be blessed as they lead.

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Connect. Grow. Participate.  
**iServe**



**Be the  
Servant**  
 Week 2

## NOTES

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## CONNECT

- What is one household chore you don't like doing? Why?
- What for you are two to three traits that every leader should have?
- Which restaurant offered you the best service so far?  
 Share your experience.

## WORD

### WHAT

What does the Bible say?

<sup>25</sup>Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them.

<sup>26</sup>Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, <sup>27</sup>and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—<sup>28</sup>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.”

Matthew 20:25-28

Jesus’ disciples were concerned about the positions they will get when His kingdom comes. (Luke 2:24). The mother of James and John, Jesus’ aunt, even asked Him a favor to make her sons the right and left hand man (Matthew 20:20,21). While all these were happening, Jesus taught them a lesson about how to be great in God’s kingdom.

- **Being great in God’s kingdom is not about lording it over people.**

*Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them.”*

Matthew 20:25

Jesus said that being great in His kingdom is not about dominating over people. Greatness in the world is measured by position and power over others and throughout history and even in our time, people aim for these. However, when people’s hearts are greedy and selfish, the power and position given them will not benefit the people they are leading. Can you name leaders from history who exemplified this and the effect they had on the people they led?

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- **Being great in God’s kingdom is being a servant.**

*“<sup>26</sup>Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, <sup>27</sup>and whoever wants to be first must be your slave . . .”*

Matthew 20:26,27

Jesus says that the way to greatness in God’s kingdom is by being a servant. A servant during their time is someone who does the menial tasks like sweeping the floor, preparing the meals, collecting garbage, etc. It is the lowest position someone could have. This principle does not make sense in the world’s standards, but God is looking for those who can serve humbly (Matthew 18:4; Proverbs 18:12). Can you name someone who led like this?

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- **Being great in God’s kingdom is being just like Jesus.**

*“. . . 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.”*

Matthew 20:28

Our primary motivation in humbly serving others is Jesus. He modeled to us the way of the kingdom. He is worthy to be served yet He chose to serve. He is God yet He chose to humble Himself to be a man and offered His life so we can be saved (Philippians 2:8; Galatians 1:3,4). What other traits can we follow in the way Jesus led?

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### SO WHAT

What is the relevance of the Word to my life?

- Do you find yourself more concerned with what others will say about you or positions or titles? How does our lesson affect your view on this?
- How does our lesson affect your view and appreciation of those who serve?
- How does the truth that God is looking for someone who comes to humbly serve affect your ideas or hesitations in serving others?
- How does the example of Jesus encourage you to serve?

### NOW WHAT

How do I apply the Word to my life?

- What are two or three practical things you will do to serve others (family, friend, colleagues) this week?
- In what ways can you serve others in your church? What specific service ministry do you intend to be part of?
- With the people you currently lead, what can you do or change to serve them better?