

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

## *Becoming a Great Servant*

Stand-Alone Sermon

**ICEBREAKER:** How much of a “people watcher” are you? In what places do you find yourself “people watching”?

**OVERVIEW:** If you are a true Christian, then you want to be the best Christian you can be. No one wants to be a lousy Christian, or a mediocre Christian, or even above average. We want to be great Christians. But how? According to Jesus, **to be great Christians we need to become great servants.** In this discussion we will strive to learn more about how to grow in servanthood.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend’s message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday’s message?)
2. Read Matthew 20:20-27.
  - a. Who were Zebedee’s sons, and what was their mother asking for?
  - b. Was there anything wrong with her request? Does a servant-hearted person make this kind of request?
  - c. What did Jesus mean when He asked if they were able to drink the cup that He was about to drink (v. 22)?
  - d. Why do you think the other disciples were “indignant” with the sons of Zebedee (v. 24)? Does this reveal anything about the other disciples’ level of servanthood?
  - e. What does this passage teach about leadership? What does it teach about servanthood?
3. Name a person that you think is a great servant. What makes them a great servant?
4. What qualities are needed for someone to be a great servant? Which of these do you lack the most?
5. How are humility and servanthood related? How does a person develop humility?
6. How well are you doing with servanthood? Are you a servant-hearted person? Explain.
7. How can you become a better servant (choose one) at home, at school, at work, at church, and in your neighborhood? (Remember, to serve is to identify and meet the legitimate needs of the people in your life.)

**The Last Word:** The heart of a saved sinner who seeks to follow Jesus does not ask, “How can I have the maximum prestige or applause?” It asks, “How can I do the greatest good for people who need my help, no matter what it costs me?” — John Piper