

## Digging Deeper During the Week!

Servant leadership is what being transformed in Christ is all about! As you dig into the New Testament this week, you will see the heart attitudes of a great servant of Jesus Christ.

**Monday Deacons Serve the Needs of the Congregation!**  
28-Apr Acts 6.1-7

The leaders of the Church at Jerusalem understood the imperative of getting the right people involved in the work of God in the local church!

- The problem was important – people were starving! Who were these people? What kind of influence would they have held?
- Since this was important, the leaders of the church wanted to meet the need. However, what do you notice is the ‘North Star’ by which they are guided when it comes to this issue (2-4)? What was the result of diversifying the ministry tasks to these qualified servants?

**Tuesday Deacons Serve the Lord Completely!**  
29-Apr Matthew 6.24

Serving God means keeping a powerful focus upon the Lord in every detail of life and ministry.

- It is clear that there are two diametrically opposed forces at work against the servant leader every day of their lives. What does Jesus declare these two gravitational forces to be? Where is your passion right now? How is it focused?
- When you think about these two spiritual opposites, what comes to mind as necessities in your life if you are to serve God well? In which direction are you being pulled at this time? What should you be doing so that your life will serve God alone?

**Wednesday Deacons Serve by Following Jesus’ Example!**  
30-Apr Mark 10.35-45

Inner desires reflect the true heart of the follower of Jesus. Leadership has it’s own power to reveal what is in that inner being.

- As the two brother approach Jesus, it is obvious they have been speaking for some time about the future and their part in the leadership of Jesus’ coming Kingdom. What do you notice about the desire for power that these two men reveal (35-37)?

- Since power was what they were seeking after, what do you make of Jesus response to their request (42-45)? How do you think they responded deep inside? What is your response to the offer that God rewards people based on their attitudes and actions of humility?

**Thursday Deacons Serve by Becoming Servants!**  
1-May Matthew 20.20-28

As we looked at this parallel passage last time, we discovered the insipient evil that resides in our flesh – the desire for power. As we continue to explore this discussion, ask God to expose your real heart.

- How does one get their Mother involved in the scheme to be the two most powerful people in Jesus’ coming Kingdom?
- Consider the greatness quotient in Jesus’ Kingdom (27). Now do a quick heart and soul evaluation and write down how you fare for position in Jesus’ coming Kingdom.

**Friday Deacons Serve by Dying to Their Lives!**  
2-May John 12.20-26

Service to and with Jesus involves the death of self in this life.

- Jesus clearly tells us of the loneliness and fruitlessness of a life lived for self. What do you see as the keys to effective service for Christ from this passage? How does that translate into your life?
- Service means following the example of Jesus – who gave His life a ransom for many. What are you willing to give up for Jesus?

**Saturday Deacons Serve When They Are Worthy!**  
3-May 1 Timothy 3.8-13

Before one can serve the Lord Jesus as an official deacon, their lives must measure up with the qualifications of the position.

- First note the word ‘likewise’ (8). This means that the qualifications for deacons in the church flow from the same servanthood that covers the bishop / elder / pastor leader. How does that influence your understandings of the servant aspect of leadership?
- When we look at the qualifications for serving as a deacon (servant leader) what do you notice these to deal with in general? Looking at the benefits of this role (13) how does that affect your desire to serve the Lord with a willing heart?

*“I am focusing all my energies on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead.” Philippians 3:13 (NLT)*

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