

GREATNESS: BEYOND THE SHORE

July 7, 2019 | Pastor Rob Koke

READ | Matthew 23:11

The word “greatest” can easily stir up a debate and get passions flowing when thrown into a conversation. Jesus taught and modeled on greatness and what it takes to be great. He said that if you want to be your greatest self then you must develop the heart of a servant.

READ | John 13:3-15

OBSERVATIONS ON THE GREATNESS OF JESUS

He was aware of the needs around him.

Some people are aware naturally and others are completely oblivious. We can become better at being aware by pausing, listening, and observing.

He made himself available. (Matthew 20:30-34)

If you want to be used by God, you must be willing to be interrupted. Most of Jesus’ miracles came from an interruption. Reasons for being unavailable: Self-Centeredness (Phillipians 2:4), Perfectionism (Ecclesiastes 11:4), Materialism (Luke 16:13). The key to serving is availability.

He took action. (John 13:4)

God wants us to have action-oriented hearts. We are His hands! God is committed to using His people, there is no other plan. It won’t happen if we are not willing.

“Without God we cannot... Without us He will not...”

St. Augustine

He had the right attitude. (John 13:13-14; Matthew 20:28)

Jesus, who created the universe, washed His disciples’ feet and died for us. We are royalty but our attitude should be the heart of a servant out of gratitude. When you realize what He did for you - how can you not desire to give back?

REFLECT | Out of all the ways Jesus modeled how to be great: awareness, availability, action-oriented, and attitude - where do you see how you can improve the most?

LAST THOUGHT

When we serve, we receive outrageous rewards.

You will never be a part of doing something for God that at the end of it you are not better off. We receive rewards here on earth (satisfaction, joy, spiritual gifts, talents, etc.) and in heaven. You cannot outgive God!

SUMMARY | Jesus was the perfect model of greatness and modeled it in four ways: awareness, availability, action-oriented, and attitude. To truly be great, we must look at His example, develop the heart of a servant, and serve out of gratitude.

PRAYER | Make time to pray for one another before you dismiss your group.