

Philippians 2:3-5

Like Servants

A call too (*I mean this "too"*) radical ...

- I. Selflessness
 - A. Checked Motives
 - B. True Meekness
- II. Servanthood
 - A. Realistic
 - B. Altruistic
- III. Like the Savior
 - A. Observe
 - B. Imitate

... for common folk.

Children, Listen ...

1. Is it an easy thing to think of others as more important than ourselves? Why?
2. A "motive" is the reasons we do something. How can we make sure our motive for doing something is good?
3. In what ways can we be servants to others?
4. What did Jesus do for His disciples to give us an idea of what being a servant looks like?

All About Me

It starts early, early in life and early every morning – self-absorption that is. Our fallen human nature compels us to put ourselves first, and unless something deters us we generally set out to pursue our own advantages throughout our lives and throughout the day, sometimes at the expense of others. There are things that naturally require self-interest – things like eating and drinking, appropriate self-defense and whatnot. And our own spiritual welfare is of utmost priority – only fools neglect their souls. But the seedier side of self-interest takes over when we bloat our egos by feeding our self-indulgent pride and put ourselves at the center of the universe. That may sound a bit dramatic, but things can easily become all about self, we “Look out for number one,” after all, “It’s all about me.” We would never say it, but we often think it and act accordingly. Are we really that bad? Perhaps not as bad as we can be – but we all face the problem of heightened self-centeredness at times. We can never be comfortable with that. God calls us to a new mentality; we have the mind of Christ, and by His grace and His Spirit at work in us we can actually make progress in meekness and grow in Christ-like humility. Put off selfish ambition – cloth yourself with humility before God and man – make it your habit to put others first – imitate Christ as servants – and you will glorify your Father in Heaven.