

Made to Serve.

■ John 13:15

I've laid down a pattern for you. What I've done, you do. *MSG*

For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. *NKJV*



Do you ever ask any of the following...

- ◆ "What is 'being' a Christian all about anyway?"
- ◆ "Is there more to this than what I already know?"
- ◆ "Am I missing something?"

These are questions that not only need to be asked, but are in fact being asked by many. There seems to be a heart cry in our nation for the truth of the Gospel, a longing for the church to be what it was intended to be, for the character of God to be displayed through His people. But what is the truth? How can we know if we are following it? If we are simply looking at life as we see it, we are most likely to miss it (or at least get a watered down version). We have strayed so far from the truth in more ways than we realize. I do not relay this as a judgement; I simply say it as a fact, for I know that I myself have strayed off course at times allowing the filters of my environment and sin nature (fear, materialism, and self sufficiency to name a few) to thwart the power & effect of the Gospel in my own life. It is this acute awareness of the weaknesses of my heart that have drawn me back to the very words and presence of God. I crave sound doctrine; to dwell, digest and be fed from it. This is the only place that I am sure to find absolute truth and where I am drawn back to the purposes of Christianity, the reason that Jesus came to this earth in the first place; to seek and to save what was lost... me ([Luke 19:10](#)).

Being a Christian is found in the initial confession that we make when we first believe.

*That if you confess with your mouth, "**Jesus is Lord**," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. [Romans 10:9](#)*

Becoming a Christian is not obtained by simply going through some ritual or ceremony. It is birthed from the acute awareness of our need and that only Jesus can rescue us from ourselves. We become Christians because of an eye-opening experience (heart revelation) that reveals 'Jesus is Lord'. (Something like Peter in the Gospels – [Matthew 16:14-16](#), [Mark 8:29](#), [Luke 9:20](#))

So, here is the thrust of this study and here also lies the irony of the Gospel. If Jesus is LORD and I have received Him as such, then by definition... I am not Lord! (I know, I know... you could've told me so!). There can only be one Master and I am here to do His will and bidding. If God were other than He is, I and millions of others would be most pitied on this earth. But God is the most brilliant of all Kings; the most humble, yet the most powerful; the most loving and the most holy.

Intro & Purpose of 'Made to Serve'

He GAVE His son Jesus to this earth to redeem our need, to get us out of the eternal debt that we created. He GAVE so that we could be free to be with Him and partner / serve in His kingdom.

To 'be' a Christian is to be a Christ follower (little Christ), an imitator and reflector of Jesus. It is not merely to mimic His actions but to actually take His Spirit into ours; His mind and purpose becoming one with ours! What an honour! Take the time to read [Philippians 2:1-11](#). So to answer the initial questions, being a Christian is not only found in understanding who we are in Christ but who we are not. Jesus is Lord & King and we are His servants. I can hear the psalmist (one of the sons of Korah:) in Psalm 84:10 declaring:

"A day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness".

We are attendants of the King of kings! This is not drudgery, this is the highest honour of all to be trusted and welcomed through grace into His very presence; to be given the privilege of entrance to the throne room and the benefit of every possible gift that He has, embedded and living in our spirits.

1. Made to SERVE.

To serve is to find the joy and destiny that we were created for. But SERVICE in God's Kingdom is not for wimps. This is a gruelling race, a battle that may take on the appearance of Jesus' earth time. It will definitely take tenacity and discipline, focus and perseverance but will bring blessing and honour to our lives as we give glory & attention to God.

■ Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honour the one who serves me. John 12:26

■ Serve – Diakoneo¹

- ◆ to be a servant, attendant, domestic, to serve, wait upon
- ◆ to minister to one, render ministering offices to
- ◆ to take care of the poor and the sick, who administer the office of a deacon
- ◆ to attend to anything, that may serve another's interests

■ Follow - Akolouthéo¹

- ◆ to follow one who precedes, join him as his attendant, accompany him
- ◆ to join one as a disciple, become or be his disciple
- ◆ side with his party

■ Servant - Diakonos¹

- ◆ one who executes the commands of another
- ◆ the servant of a king
- ◆ a waiter, one who serves food and drink

2. JESUS is our prime EXAMPLE.

- **For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. John 13:15**

In the following lessons we will predominantly looking at Jesus and what He taught and did. He is the one we are imitating and representing. Read [John 13:12-17](#) and make observations below.

- **Then**

What is the general context of this passage?

- **What?**

What is this passage saying?

- **Now**

What does this mean for us today?

3. Who Done It?

- **Bible Times**

List at least one example from scripture for the above concept. (List name, reference, and general story-line)

- **Our Time**

Can you think of someone from today that reflects the above concept? Why?

4. What will I do with this lesson?

- **List an action plan for this week below:**
-