

A Helpless Newborn

- Every sacrifice for them is necessary.
- We don't complain when:
 - They wake us at 3:00am.
 - We have to feed them.
 - We have to change their diaper.
 - We carry them everywhere.
- They are helpless so we do everything
- We don't discipline or try to change.

The Transition

- *Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. Lk 2:51-52*
- Some transition more smoothly than others.
- God expects parents to help them.
- *Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; the rod of correction will drive it far from him.*
Pr. 22:15

Our Parents Tried to Help

- *He who spares his rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him promptly. Pr. 13:24*
- *Chasten your son while there is hope, and do not set your heart on his destruction. Pr. 19:18*
- *Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; the rod of correction will drive it far from him. Pr. 22:15*
- Some of us were worse than others.....

Our Parents Tried to Help

- *Do not withhold correction from a child, for if you beat him with a rod, he will not die. You shall beat him with a rod, and deliver his soul from Sheol. Pr. 23:13-14*
- *The rod and rebuke give wisdom, but a child left to himself brings shame to his mother. 17 Correct your son, and he will give you rest; yes, he will give delight to your soul. Pr. 29:15,17*
- Some of us had better parents than others

Selfish / Self Centered

- Now we are adults
- Some more “subject” than others
- Some “grew in wisdom” more some less
- How selfish was I growing up
- How selfish am I now?
- This lesson will be the mirror to see.
- Humble... Proud ... World revolves around me Others?

Turning Things Upside Down

- *Then He came to Capernaum. And when He was in the house He asked them, “What was it you disputed among yourselves on the road?” 34 But they kept silent, for on the road they had disputed among themselves who would be the greatest. 35 And He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all.”*

Mk. 9:33-35

An Assessment We All must Make

- This is the heart of the “Pride of life” that John warned against. 1Jn 2:15-17
- Selfish desires competing with the need to love, sacrifice and help others.

“If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all.”

Last of All and Servant of All?

- Jesus:
- *For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” Mk 10:45*
- *For who is greater, he who sits at the table, or he who serves? Is it not he who sits at the table? Yet I am among you as the One who serves. Luke 22:27*

Were they “*one who serves*”

- The petition of James and John:
- *Grant that we may sit on your right and left hand Mk. 10:35-40*
- The Response of the other 10
- *And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John Mk. 10:41*
- Jesus revealed the truth:
- *whoever would be great among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. 10:42-45*

A Hard Lesson to Learn?

- As Jesus revealed the Lord's Supper and the presence of a betrayer Lk. 22:14-23
- At the very end of His earthly ministry, they have not grown out of this.
- *Now there was also a dispute among them, as to which of them should be considered the greatest. Lk. 22:24-25*
- Wanting to be served NOT SERVE

A Hard Lesson to Learn?

- Jesus teaches them again:
- *“The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those who exercise authority over them are called ‘benefactors.’ 26 But not so among you; on the contrary, he who is greatest among you, let him be as the younger, and he who governs as he who serves.” Lk. 22:25-30*

Example of True Servant

- John 13:1-2 before or after the argument?
Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. John 13:3-4
- Jesus knew no one greater than He was.
- God given all things into His hands
- Knew He had come from God
- Knew He was going back to God

A Lesson to Learn

- *After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, John 13:4-5*
- Jesus was giving them a perfect example
- *For even the Son of Man did not come to be **served**, but to **serve**, and to **give His life** a ransom for many.*
- Peter could not grasp it and didn't understand.
- *And Peter said to Him, "Lord, are You washing my feet?" 7 Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this." 8 Peter said to Him, "You shall never wash my feet!" 13:6-8*
- Peter thinks he is honoring Jesus.

Jesus' Warning to Peter

- *Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me." 9 Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!" John 13:8-9*
- This is Jesus final night... now or never
- This principle must be learned!
- If you can't or won't learn it you can't be a disciple.
- Peter still doesn't understand. Thinks it is just the washing and not the principle.

Peter must learn not to do:

- *Therefore whatever they tell you to observe, that observe and do, but do not do according to their works; for they say, and do not do. 4 For they bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. 5 But all their works they do to be seen by men. They make their phylacteries broad and enlarge the borders of their garments. 6 They love the best places at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues, 7 greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called by men, 'Rabbi, Rabbi.'* Mt 23:3-7

Were they “*one who serves*”

- *But you, do not be called 'Rabbi'; for One is your Teacher, the Christ, and you are all brethren. 9 Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven. 10 And do not be called teachers; for One is your Teacher, the Christ. 11 But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. 12 And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted. Mt 23:8-12*

Were they “one who serves”

- *He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? 13 You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. 14 If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. 16 Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. 17 If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. John 13:12-18*