

Eastern Mission

Apostolic Lutheran Church of America

Servant

What does it mean to be a servant? (Dictionary definition) A person who performs duties for others, especially a person employed in a house on domestic duties or as a personal attendant. So we see that a servant serves to the benefit of his master or employer, first for the master and then to the benefit of those he serves. We as God's children are to be His servants. How are we to be God's servant? We know that Christ came down from heaven to do the bidding of his Father. We read in **Philippians 2: 5&6 Who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made of himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men.** Christ being the Son of God, was equal to his Father in heaven came here to serve. Just as we are the sons of God through the work (service) of Jesus Christ, serving his Father for the benefit of saving us. **Matthew 20:28 Even as the son of man came not be ministered unto, but to minister, and give his life a ransom for many.** So that we might be the sons of God. Therefore, we also are servants of God by serving them around us. And as Christ humbled himself in such a way that he took no credit to himself, in fact when one begins to exalt him, He said **Matthew 19: 17 And he said unto him, why callest thou me good? There is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.**

Even Christ when he walked here even though he was true man he was here to do his Fathers will and take no credit to himself. Likewise, because we are sons of God through Jesus, we need to ask God to humble us, (because there is none of us humble unless God humbles us), that we also would give all glory to God for all that we do. Jesus says in **Matthew 23: 11&12 But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that humble himself shall be exalted.** Isn't it our nature that we want to be exalted and sit in the high places? We are so corrupt that then we begin to think like this, I will be humble so that I can be exalted. So, we become exalted in being humble. Oh God help us to bow before you and that we would be humble by you by all that you have done for us, so that we reach out to the lost sinner, the poor, the hurting, the sick, the struggling child of God, even to the self-righteous pharisee. For we know that we are no better than them in our fallen nature, but have been saved by grace, which is a gift from God, given to fallen men through Jesus his son. And if through our serving we suffer lets us be glad to suffer for the sake of our Lord. When the apostles and been arrested for preaching and serving the people Paul says in **Acts 5: 41 And They (the apostles) departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.** (Jesus) Also we read in **1 Peter 4: 15&16 But let none of you suffer as a murder, or as a thief, or in another men's matters. Yet if any man suffer as Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on his behalf.** Oh Lord help us to be servants first for you and then our neighbors, that we may glory and honor to you name.

God's peace
Ken Matson