

## **HEART FOR THE HOUSE: HOUSE OF SERVING**

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### **Philippians 2:3-8 NIV**

*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself NOTHING by taking the very nature of a SERVANT, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!*

### **Luke 22:24-27 NLT**

*Then they began to argue among themselves about who would be the greatest among them. Jesus told them, “In this world the kings and great men lord it over their people, yet they are called ‘friends of the people.’ But among you it will be different. **THOSE WHO ARE THE GREATEST AMONG YOU SHOULD TAKE THE LOWEST RANK, AND THE LEADER SHOULD BE LIKE A SERVANT.** Who is more important, the one who sits at the table or the one who serves? The one who sits at the table, of course. But not here! For I am among you as one who serves.”*

### **Observations:**

1. Greatness begins with a humble heart.

*“I was not created to be great in myself, but rather to reflect the greatness of God through myself.”*

2. A humble heart is formed through serving others.

3. The more I serve others the more secure I am in myself.

### **Romans 8:7 MSG**

*Focusing on the self is the opposite of focusing on God. Anyone completely absorbed in self ignores God, ends up thinking more about self than God.*

### **Three Areas to Develop the Heart of a Servant:**

1. Begin to SERVE the WORLD you live in.

#### **1 Corinthians 9:19-23 MSG**

*Even though I am free of the demands and expectations of everyone, I have voluntarily become a SERVANT to any and all in order to reach a wide range of people: religious, nonreligious, meticulous moralists, loose-living immoralists, the defeated, the demoralized— whoever. I didn't take on their way of life. I kept my bearings in Christ—but I entered their world and tried to experience things from their point of view. I've become just about every sort of SERVANT there is in my attempts to lead those I meet into a God-saved life. I did all this because of the Message. I didn't just want to talk about it; I wanted to be in on it!*

2. Begin to SERVE the FAMILY you live with.

#### **Matthew 7:12 MSG**

*“Here is a simple, rule-of-thumb guide for behavior: ASK YOURSELF WHAT YOU WANT PEOPLE TO DO FOR YOU, THEN GRAB THE INITIATIVE AND DO IT FOR THEM. Add up God's Law and Prophets and this is what you get.”*

3. Begin to SERVE the CHURCH you commit to.

### **Five Levels of People in the Church:**

- 1. COMMUNITY:** people who watch online or visit from time to time
- 2. CROWD:** people who attend church but never join (usually visit many churches)
- 3. CONGREGATION:** people who connect with one church but aren't deeply involved
- 4. COMMITTED:** people who join church and serve, tithe, etc.

**5. CORE:** people who go above and beyond to give, serve and lead sacrificially in a church

**Ephesians 4:11-16 NKJ**

*And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.*