

A HEART TO SERVE

Educators are servants. Every day is filled with serving others from students, to colleagues, to parents, to support staff. Serving is in an educator's DNA. This is why it is so important that we don't limit our serving to the workplace. Every believer has not only been given talents but also spiritual gifts for the sole purpose of building up the body of Christ. How can we develop a heart to serve without feeling like it is one more thing we HAVE to do? Let's look at what Paul has to say about Jesus, the model of servanthood.

Read [Philippians 2:3-4 ESV](#).

In the prior verses, Paul emphasized the importance of unity in the body of Christ. If we are going to have the mindset of a servant, pursuing harmony will need to be a priority. *Paul recommends two ways we can demonstrate the heart of a servant. What are they?*

Why do you think Paul chose to use the word "nothing" in verse 3? How does this command resonate with you?

Read [Philippians 2:5-8 ESV](#).

If we want to have a servant mindset, we should look to Jesus, the ultimate servant. *How did Paul describe Jesus's perspective in verses 6-7?*

What did Jesus's service look like (v. 8)?

Jesus never lost sight of who He was and why He came. His heart to serve was rooted in His identity and position with God the Father. *How is God specifically asking you to serve others as a child of God, your true identity?*

Read [Philippians 2:9-11 ESV](#).

Why was Jesus highly exalted by God?

What should be the ultimate goal of our service?

How do we maintain a heart to serve? First, never lose sight of who you are! When Jesus lives in our hearts, service becomes a privilege and an act of gratitude. Second, focus on the big picture. Every opportunity to serve and steward our gifts is an opportunity to glorify God. One day every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord!

Dear Lord, thank You for Jesus, the perfect servant who came and died for me! Fill me with Your Spirit, Lord, and give me a heart of service. Open my eyes to opportunities to use my gifts and talents to serve You. Protect me from pride and serving with wrong motives. May all I do point others to Jesus and glorify Your name. In the precious name of Jesus, amen.