

**Sermon Quotes**  
**April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007**  
**Living In The Good Of The Gospel**  
**Gospel Conduct- Serving- Attitude and Action**

Definition: Serve, *verb*:

to view yourself as less important than others;

to attend to the needs and desires of others

**THE GOSPEL:**

All that God the Father has done through Jesus Christ to redeem sinners and bring us into the Kingdom of God

**THE DOCTRINAL IMPLICATION:**

Mark 10:45 “the Son of Man came into the world not to be served but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many.”

**THE BEHAVIORAL IMPLICATION:**

We are commanded to serve each other the way that we have been served by our Savior, Jesus Christ

“Our Savior did not come to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many (Mark 10:45). Every Christian is the blood-bought servant of the Lord Jesus Christ. Being a servant of Christ is not an option if you want to be more dedicated; it is the calling of every believer. If you are not a servant of Christ, you cannot rightly call yourself a Christian. But, because we all are selfish by nature, we must cultivate the heart of a servant as we grow in Christ.”

—Steven J. Cole

“James and John were ransomed by the Savior’s death and forgiven of their pride and all their sins. And they would be transformed as well, from self confident men into humble servants who would live to serve others with the Gospel for the glory of God. And they would suffer. After Christ’s resurrection and ascension, James was the first of the apostles to be martyred...How profoundly precious in Christ’s eyes must have been the sight of this once self confident and selfishly ambitious man kneeling down, while the executioners sword was raised above him! What had transformed James? The Savior had died as a ransom!

John, his brother, would be transformed as well. John was apparently the last of the apostles to die, buy he suffered persecution and was banished to the Island of Patmos. It’s obvious from the letter’s John wrote that he understood his Savior’s teaching on humble servanthood. “BY this we know love, that Christ laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.” (1 John 3:16) John got it right! What transformed John? The Savior died as a ransom!”

—C.J. Mahaney

“As you encounter those who humbly serve, know that they’re truly great in the eyes of God. But understand also the source of their serving. Their humble service should remind you of this death, this ransom this price paid to liberate the one whom you now see serving. Consider your own life for just a moment. Where would you be today if He hadn’t ransomed you, if He hadn’t liberated you? I’ll tell you where. You would be self-sufficient, seeking to cultivate self confidence for the purpose of self glorification. But what has happened to you? If you’ve been genuinely converted, you’ve been forgiven and transformed. And though for now there remains in you a temptation and tendency to sin, a fundamental and radical change has occurred so that you have the desire to serve others and to see God glorified. What a powerful death! The cross ransoms, the cross liberates, the cross transforms! So make it your aim and lifelong habit, when you see someone who’s serving, to be reminded of the sacrifice of the Savior, for apart from His sacrifice there is no serving. True greatness is attained only by emulating the Savior’s example—and made possible only by the Savior’s sacrifice.”

—C.J. Mahaney