

Transformed  
From Consumerism to Servanthood

Reflect

- 1) What is the difference between consumerism and servanthood?
- 2) Which lifestyle do you think human nature leans towards? Why?
- 3) Which lifestyle do you think God is calling us to and why?

Read Your Bible

- Mark 10:35-45
- Philippians 2:1-11

Apply God's Word to Your Life

- 1) As you think about the difference between being a church consumer and practicing your faith, what stands out to you about these scripture verses?
- 2) God's plan is to involve us as faithful people in His work in this world following the example of Jesus. How did James and John's request of Jesus misunderstand God's plan for them?
- 3) In what ways do our consumer mindsets set us at odds with God's plan for us?
- 4) What does "Have the same mind as you find in Christ Jesus" mean to you?
- 5) On a scale of one to ten with one being "I'm a church consumer" and ten being a "I'm a full-fledged servant of Jesus" where would you place yourself and why?
- 6) Scripture calls us to be and become servants following Jesus example. In what ways does servanthood transform you into the likeness of who God wants you to become?
- 7) "I came not to be served but to serve." By implication that is Jesus' message to His followers. What one step can you take to move from being a consumer of church practices to becoming a servant of Jesus?

Simply stated James and John had to be challenged to change their mindset from "God exists to serve me and my desires" to "My higher calling is to serve Jesus and what He asks of me." That requires sacrifice as Jesus pointed out to them, "You will drink from the cup that I drink from." James and John would come to learn what that meant for their lives as following Jesus slowly but surely transformed them into servants of God. Christian maturity is all about growing towards a life of sacrifice and service. Christian maturity = Christian service! It is about having the mindset you find in Christ Jesus who emptied Himself to take the role of a servant. The one sure way to move from consumerism to servanthood is to put into practice being a servant of Christ.

Pray: Lord as You work in my life there is a desire in me to become more like Your Son. I ask for You to be patient with me when my faith focus is all about me. Give me a grander vision of what my calling in Christ is leading me towards. Transform my vision of what being great in Your eyes is all about. Make me a servant Lord. I offer myself to You and to Your kingdom's goals. Make me Your servant Lord. In Jesus' name. Amen!