**IT’S NOT ABOUT YOU**

The Incomparable Jesus – Part 4

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Philippians 2:5-11

Today's we will highlight an aspect of Christ's character that anyone can imitate. There are many things about Christ that you can't copy: You're not pre-existent; you didn't create the universe; you can't die for the sins of the world; you'll probably never walk on water, and so on.

But there is one aspect of Jesus' character that you can fully and completely imitate. In this, **you can be just like him**. When we look to Jesus, we not only lose our fascination with celebrity, but we also get an idea of what our own lives should look like.

**Luke 22:27 (NIV)**
For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

**Matthew 20:28 (NIV)**

just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, …

Jesus' ministry on earth was a ministry of **humble service.**

**Three events in Jesus' life that reflect this attitude of humble service.**

1. **­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­The Circumstances Of His Birth**

The Christmas story shows us that from the very beginning, Jesus' life was all about humility.

In the circumstances of his birth, we can learn a lesson. God has called each one of us, in our own situation, to live a *common life* with those around us. No sense of entitlement. No expectation of special treatment. No chasing after prestige.

When you demand that you be given special treatment from others, you're demanding for yourself something that Jesus never demanded for himself. His attitude was, "What's good enough for those of simple means is good enough for me."

1. **His Low-key Approach To Public Recognition**

**Matthew 8:1-4 (NLT2)**
Large crowds followed Jesus as he came down the mountainside. Suddenly, a man with leprosy approached him and knelt before him. “Lord,” the man said, “if you are willing, you can heal me and make me clean.” Jesus reached out and touched him. “I am willing,” he said. “Be healed!” And instantly the leprosy disappeared. Then Jesus said to him, “Don’t tell anyone about this. Instead, go to the priest and let him examine you. Take along the offering required in the law of Moses for those who have been healed of leprosy. This will be a public testimony that you have been cleansed.”

**Matthew 9:30 (NLT2)**
Then their eyes were opened, and they could see! Jesus sternly warned them, “Don’t tell anyone about this.”

**Mark 7:36 (NLT2)**
Jesus told the crowd not to tell anyone,

1. **His Personal Needs Took Second Place To His Purpose In Life**

**Luke 9:58 (NLT2)**
But Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens to live in, and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place even to lay his head.”

We see in the gospels that Jesus' top priority was not looking after his own needs and seeing to his own comfort. His top priority was, above and beyond all else, to do what the Father commanded him to do: to fulfill his purpose on earth by serving the needs of others.

**Philippians 2:5-8 (NLT2)**
You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form,
he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal’s death on a cross.