

- I. A call to true greatness
 - A. True greatness is found in servanthood
 - B. Jesus is our example of servanthood

- 1. Jesus served although he deserved worship

“Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant.” (Philippians 2:6-7)

- 2. Jesus served through trials & temptations

- 3. Jesus served though lonely and understood

“But a time is coming, and has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home. You will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me.” (John 16:32)

- 4. Jesus served because of his great love for us

“Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love.” (John 13:1)

- C. The enemy of servanthood is selfish desire

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.” (Philippians 2:3)

- 1. Selfish desire reveals itself in pride

“Pride only breeds quarrels.” (Proverbs 13:10)

- 2. Selfish desire reveals itself in competition

- 3. Selfish desire reveals itself in desiring power

- II. A call to faithfulness to Jesus
 - A. We are called to be faithful to Jesus always
 - B. We are promised rewards for faithfulness
 - C. We are promised intimate fellowship with Jesus
 - D. We are promised kingdom authority

“If we endure, we will also reign with him.” (2 Timothy 2:12)

- III. A call to trust in the restoring grace of God

- A. We will encounter temptation to betray Jesus
- B. We know that Jesus prays that we will not fail
- C. We know that if we do fail God in his grace will take us back

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” (I John 1:9)

- D. We can share God’s grace with others in need

IV. A call to expect opposition

- A. Following Jesus thrusts us into a spiritual battle

“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” (Ephesians 6:12)

- B. Following Jesus gives us the power to be victorious

“No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.” (Romans 8:37)