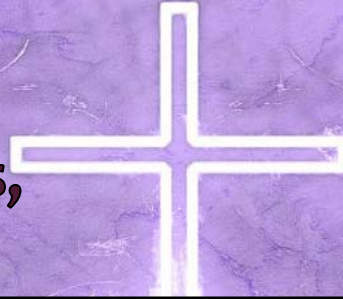


Servant:

One who serves, attends,
or looks after others



Jesus said, “If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all” (Mark 9:35) Jesus came to serve, not to be served. (Matthew 20:28). This is the example of Christ, the *way* of the *Christian life*, yet how many of us expect our spouse to serve us? We are to serve and attend to our spouse—to look after him or her, taking care of them. We need to stop being selfish and self-centered, seeking to have our needs met and instead, be used by God to meet the needs of our husband or wife. Is this easy? No, it is impossible without the power of God working in and through us—we must surrender our lives to the Lord and by the Holy Spirit live as the child of God we are.

What would happen if a husband and wife both sought to out *serve* each other? To walk the way of Christ in their marriage? What would happen if we sought to *serve* our spouse? Children? Parents? Friends? Our pastor? Supervisor at work? Even those who don’t like us? It would change our marriages, our families, our churches, our companies, communities—it would change the world! Brothers and sisters, we must live life differently, we *must* change ourselves and quit expecting everyone else to change to meet our expectations. It all begins in our marriage relationship.

Jesus demands that you love like He loves and give yourself up for others—especially your spouse. He said that to love Him is to *obey* Him. How can you say you love Jesus when you are treating your spouse badly? Please do not look at what your spouse is doing. He or she may be an unfeeling ogre; the question here is, what are *you* doing? I think of the person who said that they look down on people who look down on others. You are to treat others, not as they treat you, but with God’s love. Love your spouse as Christ loves you—serve your spouse. Attend to his or her needs, look after them, take care of them—out of obedience to Christ.

Helpful Resources: *Fortified Marriages Resource page:* www.fortifiedmarriages.com

Articles to check out: *5 Ways to Serve Your Spouse* by Suzanne Gosselin - www.intouch.org

100 Ways to Serve Your Spouse - www.nurturingmarriage.org

How Well Do You Serve Your Mate? By Doug Britton - www.dougbrittonbooks.com

FORTIFIED MARRIAGES

Building Strong Marriages

www.fortifiedmarriages.com

info@fortifiedmarriages.com

480-699-2515

