

Lord, Make Me A Servant; Matthew 20:25-28

- I. The American Dream
 - a. To be your own boss
 - i. To rise to the top
 - ii. Keep you own hours
 - iii. Owner/operator
 - b. In reality, the American dream is really about wealth
 - i. Ask anyone who owns a business who the boss is
 - ii. Customers drive owners
 - iii. 1 Timothy 6:9–10 (ESV) ⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.
 - c. The American Dream is a falsehood filled with trouble, strife, and snares
 - d. 1 Timothy 6:6–8 (ESV) ⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.
 - e. Instead, we should be seeking the Christian Dream
- II. To Be Christlike
 - a. Our dream (each Christian's) should be to be like Christ
 - b. 1 John 2:4–6 (ESV) ⁴ Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵ but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: ⁶ whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.
 - c. This may seem like it is way out of reach for us – after all He is the Messiah, God in the Flesh, The light of the World
 - i. John 8:12 (ESV) Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."
 - ii. He, Himself, tells us to be the light of the world
 - iii. Matthew 5:14–16 (ESV) ¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.
 - iv. The light that we shine is/are the good works that we do in the name of Jesus, the Savior
 - d. We are told to follow in His steps
 - i. 1 Peter 2:19–21 (ESV) ¹⁹ For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do

good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.

- ii. 1 Peter 2:22–23 (ESV) ²² He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³ When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

III. Servant

- a. Jesus came to be a servant... for all
- b. Matthew 20:25–28 (ESV) ²⁵ But Jesus called them to him and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ²⁶ It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ²⁷ and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, ²⁸ even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”
- c. Jesus demands that we become a servant... for all (for Him)
 - i. We go to work – to work for Jesus (and so that we have something to give to those who are in need, Ephesians 4:28)
 - ii. We celebrate with our friends – to celebrate Jesus’ love and sacrifice (we celebrate to the Lord, or we don’t celebrate to the Lord, Romans 14)
 - iii. It doesn’t matter what we are doing, we must be doing it to serve Jesus (and each other)
 - iv. Colossians 3:17 (ESV) And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.
- d. Jesus demands that we follow Him
 - i. Luke 6:46 (ESV) “Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do what I tell you?”
 - ii. Those who are rich are to be rich in good Works (1 Timothy 6:17-19)
 - iii. We are to give of ourselves and our resources – to renounce all that we have (Luke 14:33)
 - iv. We are to use what God has given us in service to His Kingdom

IV. Make Me A Servant

- a. Are we serving or being served?
- b. Make a commitment today – when we sing the song, live the words, “Lord, make me a servant”