Prayers for Developing a Servant's Heart

The image of Jesus humbly washing His disciple's feet during the last Passover Feast is a powerful one. His willingness to perform this menial task demonstrates the full extent of His love and also teaches by example that the Christ did not come to be served, but to serve (Matt. 20:28).

If your Christian walk involves surrender, sacrifice, and a mindset that puts other people first and your own self-interests last, you will be blessed according to Jesus' promise recorded in John 13:14-17. Here are 10 tips for developing a servant's heart.

- 1. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength.
- 2. Love your neighbor as yourself.
- 3. In humility, regard other people as precious in the sight of God.
- 4. Ask God to give you the servant mindset of Jesus.
- 5. Pray God equips you and the Body of Christ for service.
- 6. Serve out of your love for Jesus.
- 7. Search for ways to serve in your church and community.
- 8. Perform secret acts of kindness.
- 9. In the spirit of Christ, put others first.
- 10. Study Scripture passages on servitude including Phil. 2:1-11; Luke 22:24-27; John 13:1-17; Matt. 20:27-28; Eph. 5:21; Rom. 6:20-23; 1 Pet. 2:16, and Gal. 5:13.



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May 2006

Love your neighbor as yourself. Mark 12:31

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| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|---|
| | 1 God, thank you for Jesus, who took the nature of a servant, humbled himself, and be- came obedient to death. Phil. 2:5-8 | 2 God, may our love of you be with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength. Mark 12:30 | 3 God, as in the commandments given us, teach us to love our neighbors as ourselves. Mark 12:31 | 4 God, in humility may we regard other people as precious in your sight. Phil. 2:3 | 5 God, allow us to humbly receive your blessings when people minister to us in times of need. John 16:24 | 6 God, by your mercies, enable us to present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to you. Rom. 12:1 |
| 7 God, teach us to deny ourselves, take up our cross daily, and follow our Lord. Luke 9:23 | 8 God, may we learn through example that the Christ did not come to be served, but to serve. Matt. 20:28 | 9 God, encourage and bless us with the servant mindset of Jesus. John 13:14-17 | 10 God, teach us to put other people first, and our own self-interests last. Phil. 2:4 | 11 God, equip us, and the Body of Christ, for your service. Eph. 4:12; Rom. 12:3-8 | 12 God, may we serve people as a natural outpouring of our love for Jesus, expecting nothing in return. John 14:23 | 13 God, give us opportunities to minister to other people in our home, church, and community. Deut. 15:7-8 |
| 14 God, help us discover the joy that comes from performing secret acts of kindness. Col. 3:12 | 15 God, may we experience firsthand why it is more blessed to give than to receive. Acts 20:35 | 16 God, enable us to seek your will for our lives so that we may be effective in ministry. Luke 22:42 | 17 God, teach us to store up treasures in heaven and keep wealth and power in its place. Matt. 6:19-21 | 18 God, give us a passion for feeding the hungry, welcoming strangers, clothing the naked, tending the sick, and visiting prisoners. Matt. 25:35-36 | 19 God, may we show Christ's love as we seek to touch the lives of those around us through kind actions and words. John 13:35 | 20 God, set our minds on what the Spirit desires–life and peace. Rom. 8:5-6 |
| 21 God, may we be your faithful servants, and in so doing, offer others Christ. 1 Cor. 9:19-22 | 22 God, teach us to minister to one another out of reverence for Christ. Eph. 5:21 | 23 God, living as free people, may we serve one another in works of love. 1 Pet. 2:16; Gal. 5:13 | 24 God, may we be good and faithful servants in the hope that we may use effectively the talents you have given us. Matt. 25:21 | 25 God, enable us to rely on you as to whom we will serve and when we will serve. Rom 14:8 | 26 God, help us to be still and listen with open hearts for your call to serve others. 1 Sam. 3:8 | 27 God, we pray that you will be glorified when we minister to people in need. Rom. 15:6 |
| 28 God, enable us to use whatever gifts we have received to serve others, faithfully administering your grace. 1 Pet. 4:10 | 29 God, may we serve with the strength you provide, so that in all things you may be praised through Jesus. 1 Pet. 4:11 | 30 God, may we never grow weary in doing good, as you have been faithful to us. Gal. 6:9-10 | 31 God, help us learn from Jesus' example that we should serve other people even at a high personal cost. Phil 2:5-8 | | | www.ngumc.org |