

Conformed to the Image of Christ: Christ's Servanthood

- **“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”** (Mark 10:44-45)
- **“It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end... so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.”** (John 13:1-5)

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“Everyone enjoys being served, but few enjoy making the effort to serve others. People often don’t mind being called servants, but they do mind being treated as servants. Mature followers of Jesus are marked by what they will do for others without expecting anything in return.” *Leroy Eims, The Navigators*

I) Context of (Mark 10:45)!

- **Non-believers in this world serve themselves!** “Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ⁴³ **Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all.”** (Mark 10:41-44)
- **Two disciples wanted to be the greatest, to sit next to Jesus!** Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. “Teacher,” they said, “we want you to do for us whatever we ask.” “What do you want me to do for you?” he asked. They replied, “Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory.” (Mark 10:35-37) Ref: (Matthew 20:20-21) Their mother!

- **They missed the point of Christ's baptism (immersion of affliction, judgement and suffering)!** “You don't know what you are asking,” Jesus said. “Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?” ³⁹ “We can,” they answered. Jesus said to them, “You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared.” (Mark 10:38-40) Ref: Third prediction of His death and resurrection. (Mark 10:32-34)

II) Learning from (Mark 10:45) About Being A Servant!

- **Jesus is the “Son of Man” next to the “Ancient of Days” in Daniel’s vision!**
“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a **son of man**, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the **Ancient of Days** and was led into his presence. (Daniel 7:13) Ref: (Daniel 7:9,10,14) “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.**” (Luke 22:27)

II) Learning from (Mark 10:45) About Being A Servant!

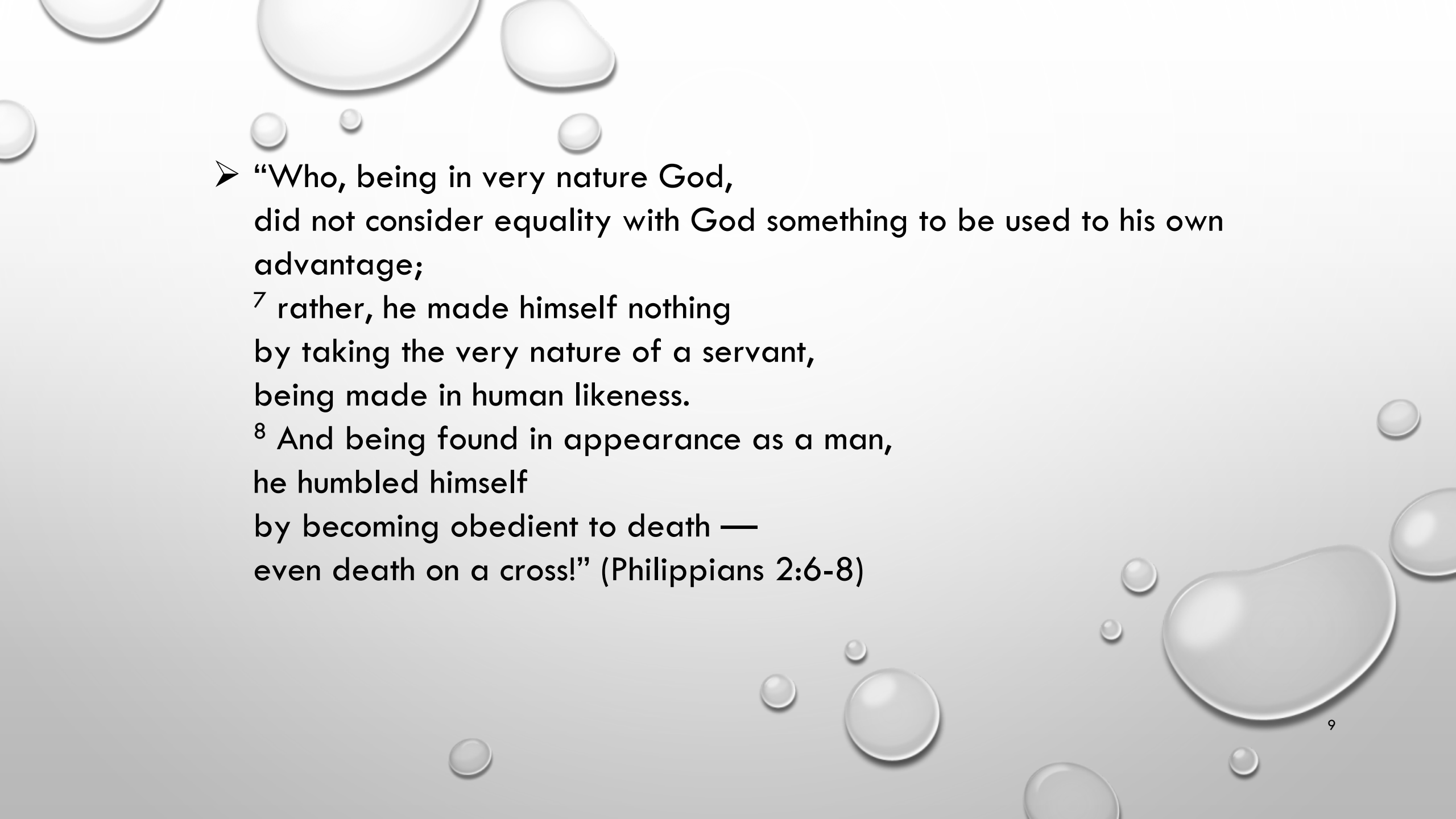
- **Jesus gave Himself as a “ransom for many”!** What is the meaning of “ransom”? In Hebrews “**lytron**” (2 occurrences) means the price paid for slaves, for the ransom of life, to liberate many from captivity, misery, and penalty of sin. It is about the giving up of life to give life to many! It is about falling to the ground and dying, so that many will live! It is about trading one’s life for many others so that they will benefit! (Ex) Came as a man, lived humbly among men... as a carpenter, misunderstood, mistreated, and killed by His own.

III) Learning from (John 13) About Serving Others!

- **“Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end... so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.” (John 13:1-5) “No,” said Peter, “you shall never wash my feet. Jesus answered, “**Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.**” (John 13:8)**

III) Learning from (John 13) About Serving Others!

- **“When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, **you also should wash one another’s feet.** ¹⁵ I have **set you an example** that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, **no servant is greater than his master,** nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, **you will be blessed if you do them.**” (John 13:12-17)**

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- “Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;
⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.
⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death — even death on a cross!” (Philippians 2:6-8)

IV) Learning from Paul About Serving Others!

- “Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible.” (1 Corinthians 9:19)
- “For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus’ sake.” (2 Corinthians 4:5)
- “But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. ⁸ We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. ¹⁰ We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. ¹¹ For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus’ sake, so that his life may also be revealed in our mortal body. ¹² So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you.” (2 Corinthians 4:7-12)

V) Learning from Peter About Serving Others!

- “Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God’s slaves. ¹⁷ Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.” (1 Peter 2:16-17)

VI) Learning from Others About Serving!

- Who has served you and how, either in the past or recently?
- Who else is a hero of Christ’s servanthood in history that you want to imitate?
- What can be a hindrance to your growth in Christ’s servanthood?
- How will you obey in removing obstacles and press on toward the upward call of Christ’s servanthood?

VII) Learning from Pastor Min's Summary Definitions!

- 1) Servants do not serve themselves, but Christ and others for Christ's sake!
- 2) Servants do not seek a life of privilege, but seek to take a cup of suffering to save others!
- 3) Servants are not about selfish ambition, nor self glorification, but about using their freedom to uplift and love others!
- 4) Servants do not cause others to stumble, but rather edify others!
- 5) Servants are not dulled in their senses by greed, but are alert in the Spirit to serve graciously and generously!
- 6) Servants are not influenced by the world, but by Christ's example, "Christ and Him crucified!"

- 7) Servants do not leave in the middle, but they finish and love to the end!
- 8) Servants do not make others do the work that they can do for others!
- 9) Servants do not wait for others to serve, but they kneel immediately to be slaves to all!
- 10) Servants are not consumers, but contributors and legacy makers!
- 11) Servants do not obey their fleshly pride, but Christ's command to die to self and serve!
- 12) Servants do not emanate "worldly odors," but rather Christ's fragrance and sweetness of selfless love!
- 13) Servants are observant and quick to serve!
- 14) Servants are humble and are being conformed to the image of Christ!