

# Jesus and Identity

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## Jesus And Identity Week 2, Devotion 1

“Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, ‘If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all.’” — Mark 9:35

There’s this understanding in our world that the way to get ahead is to “look out for number 1.” As long as you’re not harming anyone else, anything you need to do to make a name for yourself is fair game. Promote yourself. Build a “brand” through *Twitter* and *Instagram*. Collect friends and “likes.” Through it all, make yourself look as good as possible. Be famous in your own, little world.

### **The problem with this is that it’s pretty much the opposite of how Jesus talks about real greatness.**

See, part of your identity as a Christ-follower is serving others. You’re called to look out for the interest of other’s ahead of your own, especially if those people are the weak, the castoffs, and the lost. Because you’re a Christ-follower, true greatness comes from putting yourself last.

This is SO counter-cultural to the world you live in, isn’t it? This means it’s a challenge to live like this. But it also means there is a ton of opportunity. You can go a long way toward showing others your true identity in Christ simply by putting them first. Not only will you be obeying Christ, but your actions will lead others to know a little more about Jesus and the difference He has made in your life.

## Jesus And Identity Week 2, Devotion 2

Today, as you read this, there are people in your life who would be blown away if you did something for them that showed them that they mattered.

### **Who are those people?**

Who would be completely shocked if you did something today that put him or her first? What if

you did something that said to him or her, “I’m thinking about you before I think about me. I’m putting your needs ahead of mine”?

It’s a safe bet that this guy or girl would realize that there’s something different about you. And you might just get the chance to tell them that you’re trying to live out your identity as a Christ-follower.

Don’t miss the chance today to make a difference in someone else’s life by showing them the kind of humble heart Jesus wants to see in His followers.

## Jesus And Identity Week 2, Devotion 3

“Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 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, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!” — Philippians 2:5-8

Don’t miss what’s being said in those verses you see at the top of this devotional. Paul makes a huge statement here. He says that our attitude should be like Jesus’ attitude. And how did Paul describe Jesus’ attitude? He said that Jesus (who was, you know, God Himself) saw His life as a life of humble service to others. Whoa.

### **If that attitude was good enough for Jesus to take on, then it should be good enough for us.**

Spend today thinking about how this simple truth could radically change your life and your faith if you truly embraced it.

What would your life be like if you took on the identity of Christ’s humble service to the world?