

June 5, 2016

The Man for Others

Text: Philippians 2:5-11, Pew Bible (Page 1827)

Do you know what is the most accurate job description for a politician? _____.

The problem is that people — the masses — are drawn to celebrity.

Our fascination with fame distorts our perception of what greatness really is! And it distorts our perception of what kind of person we should admire and aspire to be.

Jesus was — is — God in the flesh. The Eternal God became a man and dwelt among us. He came to show us what a _____ with God is all about. Ref: John 1:10-11

When we look to Jesus, we not only lose our fascination with celebrity, but we also get an idea of what our own lives should look like. Ref: Luke 22:27; Matthew 20:28

Jesus' ministry on earth was a ministry of humble _____.

Three events in Jesus' life that reflect this attitude of humble service.

1. The circumstances of his birth.

In the circumstances of his birth, we can learn a lesson. God has called each one of us, in our own situation, to live a common life with those around us. No sense of entitlement. No expectation of special treatment. No chasing after prestige.

2. His low-key approach to public recognition. Ref: Mark 7:36

Jesus had no interest in using people to promote his ministry.

The lesson we can take from Jesus' attitude toward self-promotion is this: We can do good for others, not because of any benefit that might come back our way, but simply because that other person is worth it — whether we get recognition or not.

3. His personal needs took second place to his purpose in life. Ref: Luke 9:58

Jesus said this, first of all, so that the man would know that following him comes with a _____. The life of a follower is not always an easy life. Ref: John 4:32, 34

Here's a lesson we can learn from Jesus' attitude. We all have a purpose in life — and it involves much more than just seeking a comfortable life for ourselves.

If you want to be great, he said, learn to be the servant of all.

You will never be more like Jesus than when you're _____ others.