

The Art of Selflessness: Taking One's Self Out of the Equation

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Selfish

Devoted to or caring only for one's self

Concerned primarily with one's own interest, benefits, welfare...regardless of others

What about me!

Acts 8 : 9 – 21

Selfless

Having little or no concern for One's Self, especially with regard to fame, position, money, welfare...

What about you!

Hebrews 12 : 2

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Philippians 2 : 3 – 4

“Let nothing...through selfish ambition or conceit...”

‘eritheia’ – properly intrigue; a desire to put one’s self forward

‘kenodoxia’ – empty glorying;vain glory, empty pride

I Peter 5 : 5

“God resists the proud...”

‘huperephanos’ – appearing above others (conspicuous), that is, (figuratively) haughty; an overweening estimate of one’s means or merits

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Can we all agree that selfishness is wrong?

“Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are:...selfish ambitions...” Galatians 5 : 19 – 20

Can we all agree that being proud is wrong?

“Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.” Proverbs 16 : 18

How do we remove ourselves from the equation? How do we become selfless?

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Mark 10 : 43 – 45

“...whoever desires to become great...shall be your servant...shall be slave of all.”

“...the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve...”

It starts with understanding who we are!

John 13 : 12 – 16

Jesus is our master and a “servant is not greater than his master.”

John 15 : 13

What selfish person would ever lay down their life for another?

Jesus laid His life down, no one took it from Him. (John 10 : 18)

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I Corinthians 1 : 11 – 13

I hear there are divisions among you.

Paul, Apollos, Cephas, Christ

Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you, or baptized in the name of Paul?

Preacheritis

I Corinthians 3 : 5 – 7

Who is Paul? Who is Apollos?

Nobody – It's God.

Its not about devaluating, its about deglorifying

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Matthew 6 : 33

“But seek first the kingdom of God...”

God First

“...and all these things shall be added unto you.”

When you put God first, others first... “you” just happen

How do we seek first God, when we ourselves have so many needs?

Luke 9 : 23

“...deny himself...”

‘aparneomai’ - to deny utterly, that is, disown; to forget one’s self, lose sight of one’s self and one’s own interests