

Authentic Christianity: A Christian Serves

Wylie Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – February 5, 2023

Mark 10:32-45

32 They were on their way up to Jerusalem, with Jesus leading the way, and the disciples were astonished, while those who followed were afraid. Again he took the Twelve aside and told them what was going to happen to him. 33 "We are going up to Jerusalem," he said, "and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles, 34 who will mock him and spit on him, flog him and kill him. Three days later he will rise." 35 Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do for us whatever we ask." 36 "What do you want me to do for you?" he asked. 37 They replied, "Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory." 38 "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." 41 When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. 42 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. 45 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."

An authentic Christian...

I. PUTS OTHERS NEEDS ABOVE THEIR OWN

Mark 10:43-44

[Jesus said] "... whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all."

Philippians 2:3-4

3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. 4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Matthew 23:11-12

[Jesus said] "11 The greatest among you will be your servant. 12 For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

An authentic Christian...

2. DEMONSTRATES THEIR FAITH THROUGH ACTION

James 2:14, 17-18

14 What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? 17 ... faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. 18 But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do.

An authentic Christian...

3. FOLLOWS THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS

Mark 10:45

[Jesus said] "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."

Philippians 2:5-9

5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, Taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death — Even death on a cross! 9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name.