



August 21-27, 2016

Text: *Galatians 5:13*

SUMMARY OF “SERMON”: At the heart of the gospel is service. Philippians 2:7 reminds us that our Lord Jesus came as a servant. We who follow Him are also to have a servant’s heart – serving God with our worship and obedience and serving humanity with God’s love in the ways that He has gifted us.

RELATED BIBLE PASSAGES FOR THE COMING WEEK REFLECTIONS [The Bible readings this week illustrate the servant heart of God and the call for Jesus’ disciples to be His servants.]

Monday, August 22 – **Philippians 2:1-9** [This passage starts with an encouragement for Christians to humbly think of one another in beneficial ways. Then Paul illustrates this call with a remarkable description of our Lord’s humiliation as a servant in order to save us.]

Tuesday, August 23 – **Isaiah 52:13-53:12** [Sometimes lost sight of in this famous passage depicting Messiah’s crucifixion is the fact that it is one of the “Servant” songs of Isaiah. These Servant songs were find fulfillment in the work and ministry of Jesus Christ.]

Wednesday, August 24 – **Luke 1:26-38** [This passage is also very famous, heard frequently every Advent season. Of particular note here is Mary’s wonderfully obedient response in the face of a very challenging assignment – that of being mother to Jesus. She says (v.38) “I am the Lord’s servant...” Her obedience and faith is a shining example for all of us servants of the Lord.]]

Thursday, August 25 – **Genesis 24** [This charming story of how Abraham’s servant found a wife for Isaac is not only an interesting study of God’s sovereign leading, but also a great example of a servant who was faithful to his call.]

Friday, August 26 – **Mark 10:35-45** [What a remarkable contrast! The disciples wanted to increase their personal status and glory. But Jesus said to them (and to us) “Not so with you.” Jesus calls for and demonstrates a whole different attitude – one of serving others to bless them. May we heed that call.]

Saturday, August 27 – **John 13:1-17** [The well-known story of Jesus washing the disciples’ feet was symbolically illustrating the purpose of His imminent crucifixion – to cleanse us of our sins. But Jesus also used it as an illustration for all of us to humbly serve one another in love.]



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