



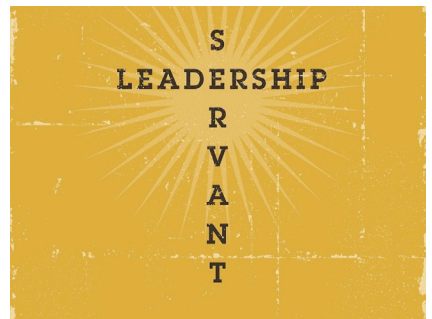
COMING EVENTS



- **Grade 8 After School Bible Study** Every Monday afternoon starting **September 16** from 3:00-4:00pm we welcome all grade 8 students to the youth lounge for a time of delicious & nutritious snacks, community, prayer & Bible study as we dig deep into the sermon message that was preached that weekend. The Welcome Center will be available for parents to wait for their students. We will event have a coffee cart ready for you to enjoy as your own community/personal time!
- **Jump 6 Kick Off • Monday, September 16.** We're meeting at a special time tonight – 6:00-8:00pm! Come out for a fun time, we'll have inflatables! Grab all your friends and we'll see you there! No pre-registration required.
There will be a parent meeting from 7:40-8pm for parents to meet Pastor Dan & learn about middle school youth!
- **Vertical Edge • Tuesday, September 17.** The World's a Bowl of Jello. What does it mean to have a biblical world view? Bring your friends and money for Checkers! 7:00-9:00pm in West Court.
- **September 27-29 • Fall Retreat!** You don't want to miss out on our annual Middle School Fall Retreat at Camp Luther! Check out the info online and register by September 20th!

september 14/15 lesson

- Series:** The King's Servants
- Lesson:** Servants of the Most High God
- Scripture:** *Genesis 12:1-9; Matthew 20:20-28*
- Key Concept:** Definition of a Biblical servant



Chew Time

Today we are beginning a four-week series entitled, “The King’s Servants”. We will be looking at what being a true Biblical servant is all about.

1) Bible Reading Time (Chew Time):

Luke 1:1-38



Stepping Up

The King’s Servants Part 1 of 4

2) Read Genesis 12:1-9

The Call of Abram

† *1 The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father’s family, and go to the land that I will show you. 2 I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others. 3 I will bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you with contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you.” 4 So Abram departed as the Lord had instructed, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran. 5 He took his wife, Sarai, his nephew Lot, and all his wealth—his livestock and all the people he had taken into his household at Haran—and headed for the land of Canaan. When they arrived in Canaan, 6 Abram traveled through the land as far as Shechem. There he set up camp beside the oak of Moreh. At that time, the area was inhabited by Canaanites. 7 Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, “I will give this land to your descendants.” And Abram built an altar there and dedicated it to the Lord, who had appeared to him. 8 After that, Abram traveled south and set up camp in the hill country, with Bethel to the west and Ai to the east. There he built another altar and dedicated it to the Lord, and he worshiped the Lord. 9 Then Abram continued traveling south by stages toward the Negev.*

- A. Abram was 75 years old when God called him to leave his home. How would you respond to being asked to leave your home when you are 75?
- B. What was the result of Abram choosing to do what God asked him to do and serve Him?

- C. If God made a promise to you like He did Abram, would it be easy or hard for you to do what He asked?
- D. God promised to give Abram many things. What did Abram have to do in order to receive God's blessings?
- E. If our actions define us, how would you define Abram?
- F. God spoke to Abram in a voice that he could hear. How do you know if God is calling you to do something? (*Through prayer, talking to other Christian friends, reading Scripture, trusting in God for help when faced with a new challenge.*)
- G. If God called you to leave a life that you are comfortable with, would you be willing to go?

3 Read Matthew 20:20-28

20 Then the mother of James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus with her sons. She knelt respectfully to ask a favor. 21 "What is your request?" he asked.

She replied, "In your Kingdom, please let my two sons sit in places of honor next to you, one on your right and the other on your left."

*22 But Jesus answered by saying to them, "You don't know what you are asking! Are you able to drink from the bitter ***cup of suffering I am about to drink?"*

"Oh yes," they replied, "we are able!"

23 Jesus told them, "You will indeed drink from my bitter cup. But I have no right to say who will sit on my right or my left. My Father has prepared those places for the ones he has chosen."

24 When the ten other disciples heard what James and John had asked, they were indignant. 25 But Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. 26 But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, 27 and whoever wants to be first among you must become your slave. 28 For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."

In this passage, Jesus gives us an example of what it is to be a servant. His words are not the easiest for people to follow. The concept of being last or below others in order to be great is not something that our culture would agree with.

- A. When you were younger, did you ever play a game of “follow-the-leader?” Which did you want to be, the leader or the follower?
- B. Why do you think that James’ and John’s mother asked Jesus this favor?



***The word **cup** in Scripture is often used symbolically. It can refer to blessing (*Ps. 16:5*) or disaster (*Jer. 25:15*), salvation (*Ps. 116:13*) or wrath (*Isa. 51:17*). Here it refers to Jesus’ forthcoming suffering (*Matt. 26:39*).

- C. Define in your own words what you think “servant leadership” means.
- D. What are some things that you need to change in your life to become a servant leader? Are those things easy or hard to change?
- E. In what specific areas of your life do you need to practice being a servant? (*ex. With your family, your friends, at church, at school.*)

Summing Up

The world would have us believe that if we want to have great success, we need to do whatever it takes to achieve it, even if that means hurting other people in the process. Abram taught us that we have to be willing to do whatever God asks us to do, even if it means leaving behind family or possessions to do so. Jesus told us that we need to put others before us if we want to become great. Jesus told James, John, and their mother that being great was not going to be easy, and that is true for us as well. However, the rewards are much better when we choose to follow God and be His servant. So what will you choose?