

Recap of 9/25/22 message by Joe Ricchuiti – Acts 28:1-3

1. Paul showed his servant's heart in Acts 28.

- *“Serving is one of the greatest challenges in the life of a disciple. Everyone enjoys being served, but few make an effort to serve others. People don't mind being called servants, but they don't want to be treated as servants. The mature Christian is marked by what he will do for others without expecting anything in return.”* (Navigator's 2:7, Course One)

- *“No task is too small for the servant of God who has 'the mind of Christ' (Philippians 2:1-13).”* (Wiersbe)

- *“...great man though he was [Paul] was not ashamed to be useful in the smallest thing...it is only the little man that refuses the little task.”* (Barclay)

- *“The test of a man's religious life and character is not what he does in the exceptional moments of life, but what he does in the ordinary times, when there is nothing tremendous or exciting on. The worth of a man is revealed in his attitude to ordinary things when he is not before the footlights (cf. John 1:36).”* (Oswald Chambers)

2. We are most like Jesus when we serve. The mind of Christ is most clearly seen in a heart of service.

-Philippians 2:5-8, In His incarnation Jesus “took the very nature of a servant” (vs. 7).

-Jesus confronted His disciples about their attitude toward service, leaders, and greatness. In Matthew 20:24-28 (Mark 9:33-35) Jesus equated greatness with servanthood and said, “the son of man did not come to be served but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many.”

-In Mark 10:43, Jesus said “whoever wants to be great among you must be your servant...whoever wants to be first must be slave of all,” thus elevating servanthood.

-In Luke 22:24-27 Jesus used the illustration of the one being served and the one serving. In the world's estimation the one being served is the greatness, yet He pointed out the “I am among you as one who serves.

-Jesus forever elevated service in John 13:1-17 when He took the place of the lowliest household servant and washed His Disciples feet. He is our example of servanthood. Though Jesus was Teacher and Lord (God incarnate), it didn't deter Him from washing their feet.

-We are not greater than Him, so we should serve (vs. 16). Blessing is promised for sacrificial service (vs. 17).