



EPISODE 11

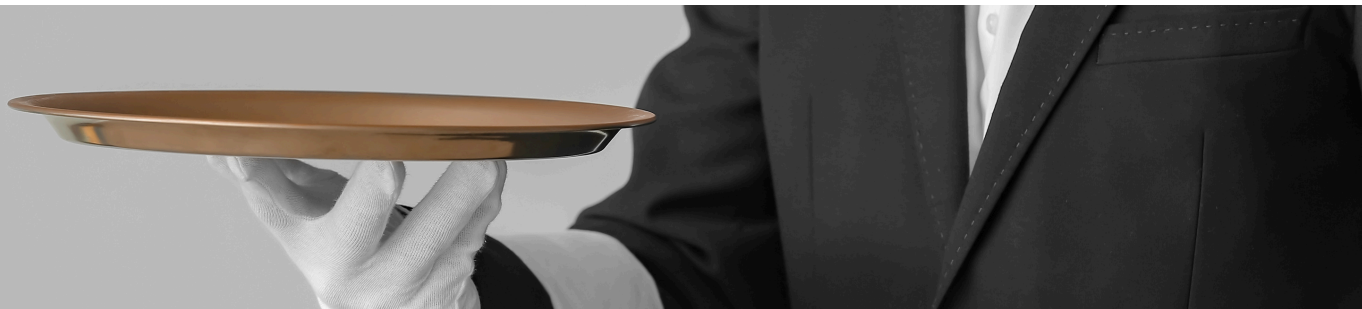


IMAGE: SERVANT

Again, the devil took Jesus to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."

Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"

Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Matthew 4:8-11 NIV

Even for Jesus, the only safe place for him to exercise his authority is under the authority of his Father.

Chris's job as an executive assistant to Kevin was to do what Kevin wanted to do, not what Chris wanted to do. In the same way, we as servants do our Master's bidding.

"Perhaps it would be a good exercise for each of us to ask ourselves: Really, how many cities could I now govern under God? If, for example, Baltimore or Liverpool were turned over to me, with power to do what I want with it, how would things turn out?"

Dallas Willard⁹

Jesus' plan is to turn his servants into the kind of people who can be kings, because their hearts can bear the weight of authority well. He takes us from the Jeroboam posture (pressing our own advantage) to the Servant posture ("Not my will, but yours be done").

JESUS AS THE SERVANT

Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. . . . Very truly I tell you, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man. . . . By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.

John 5:19, 25-27, 30 NIV

Jesus is the king with the heart of a servant: a heart that says "yes" to the Master.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

What is my Master asking of me in my life at work?

What would it look like to "seek not to please myself but him who sent me"?

How can I let Jesus make my heart like his?

How can I be "faithful in little" in my workplace?

How can I welcome Jesus as the servant who serves God only?