

SERVANTHOOD

BLD NEWARK COVENANT COMMUNITY

SERVANTHOOD AND PRAYER

A Christian evangelist once said that “the most eloquent prayer is the prayer through hands that heal and bless.” The world’s wisdom of greatness is measured in terms of power, prestige and position. However, Jesus turned this world’s value upside-down when He said, “*Whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all.*” (Mk 10:43-44)

The way to greatness in God’s kingdom begins with servanthood. The life of Jesus on earth can be summed up by His service. “*The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve.*” (Mat 20:28) Jesus did menial tasks, such as washing His disciples’ feet, serving the lepers and helping the children.

The foundation of effective prayer is to abide and remain in Christ, which can be achieved through faithful service. Servanthood flows out of a heart totally devoted to God. The more we get to know God and understand His ways, the more we will love Him and desire to serve Him. Our mission in life is expressed in service, nourished by prayer and by listening to the Word of God. *To serve is to reign with Christ.*

In the 8 months of serving the Lord through the Service Ministry, I have learned that the best way to serve is to serve with love (Gal 5:13) and humility (Acts 20:19). I have learned to focus on the Lord, whom I am serving through the community.

Let us dedicate ourselves to serving God by generously giving our time and using our talents for His honor and glory. “*Whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.*” (1Cor 10:31) Let us commit to following God’s will by leading a prayerful life and a desire to love and serve Him. “*The Father will honor whoever serves me.*” (Jn 12:26) So when we meet the Lord at the end of our pilgrim journey, He can say to us, “*Well done, my good and faithful servant.*” (Mat 25:23)

A prayer of St. Theresa of Avila sums up what servanthood is all about:

***“Christ has no body now on earth but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours.
You are the eyes through which He looks compassion on the world
Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good
Yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world.”***

Let us ask God to give us a “*servant heart*”, so we can do His will and continue to serve Him plan in through others, through our Church and through our community.

Let our prayer be, “*I want to serve you, Lord.*”