

Daily Devotion For July 7, 2022

Last month, the Golden State Warriors won the NBA World Championship. Steph Curry was named the Finals MVP and was compared to some of the **greatest** players of all time. One of the greatest boxers of all time was Muhammad Ali who referred to himself as "**The Greatest**".

What is **greatness**? **Greatness** in God's kingdom looks different than in the world. When the disciples gathered in the upper room to share their final meal with Jesus, He did something that shocked them. He wrapped a towel around His waist, grabbed a water basin and began to wash their dusty feet. Jesus said in Matthew 20:26; "Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become **great** among you must be your **servant**."

Jesus was teaching His disciples and us today an important lesson: "The **greatest** among you shall be your servant". The word **servant** in that verse is the same word for "**deacon**."

In the Greco-Roman world the role of a servant was considered undignified and unattractive. Yet, Jesus' example had such a profound impact on the early church that one of the respected offices of church was called "servant" or deacon.

One of the great blessings that we have in the Christian life is the privilege to serve. The very title of the office of deacon reminds us that we serve a Savior whose life was characterized by an attitude of humble service. He calls us to live with a different approach to greatness and leadership.

**Thought For Today and Today's Prayer Focus:** Today at 1 p.m. is the monthly meeting for our El Estero Church Deacons. Give thanks for the Deacons and their ministry to our church and community. Today, give thanks and pray for Deacon moderator, Ellie Hattori and the rest of the deacons, Tom Gunter, Dori Chin, Lyle Quock, Anne Wilbur, Taye Suzuki, and Helen Nakano.