

## **Wednesday Word    March 18, 2026**

**Matthew 20:28** *“even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

When Naomi and I first met, we were attending Church For All Nations in Parkland. It is a very culturally diverse congregation. People were free to dress in their cultural attire, so we would see African, Indian, Islanders and many more cultures represented in worship. It was truly a beautiful thing. Two of our elders had been raised in the Baptist church community and we would have folks visit from these congregations from time to time. They were amazing people but would always dress “To the Tee” with tailored suits, fedora hats and nice, shined shoes.

One Sunday, one such gentleman approached the pastor with his nice, tailored suit, fitted fedora hat and nice, polished shoes. He had a big Bible in his hand and announced to the pastor that he was there to assist the pastor in his preaching duties and was sent by God to preach God’s word from the pulpit.

I will never forget my pastor’s response. He simply told the man how happy he was that he was here and explained that there was a leadership policy in place that any leader must spend time in acts of service around the church as part of their training. He instructed the man to find the facility manager and get on a building cleaning schedule, including bathrooms. The man was offended at this request as he indicated that he was a man of God and didn’t have time for such trivial tasks as cleaning and serving as he was sent by God to preach.

The man never returned to the church.

I will always remember my pastor’s response as it taught me a lot about what it meant to be a servant of God. That being a person of faith was not about the platform or how many people saw me, it was about what I could do for others and how I could represent Jesus in an authentic way to the world. I have cleaned bathrooms, cleaned gutters, taken out trash, fixed holes in the walls and so many other things that the world may look at as “beneath” a true man of God.

I found the greatest blessings and the greatest outreach to be in the “lowliest” of tasks. That’s what it is about. Getting down to the level of people who are hurting, lost, and searching for salvation. Too many times, position and platform blind the eyes of people to their true broken condition.

Jesus modeled this so well as he spent time serving those who society would deem unworthy. And when He did, they would find true salvation and hope for an abundant life.

Let's look for ways to serve those around us and live a life that is humble before God, that He may draw all men to Him.

I love you and God loves you!

Pastor Eric Lundberg