

Last is First

The world system is designed around the idea of winning or conquest. For someone to be a winner, there must also then be a loser. Conquest means that someone or something is destroyed or defeated. This is not the Jesus Way. The Jesus Way is often opposite of the world system.

Matthew 19:28-30

Name above every other name—Philippians 2:5-11

- Let God exalt you.
- Jesus did not promote himself.
- Jesus humbled himself and became a man.
- Jesus was completely obedient to his Father's will.
- Jesus' obedience led him all the way to his death.

Luke 14:7-14

- Whoever exalts himself will be humbled.
- Whoever humbles himself will be exalted.
- Take the lowly place. Let others promote you.
- Be in the habit of promoting others.
- Help those who in no way can help you in return.
- Help people just because they need help, not in order to get something from them.

Luke 14:25-33

- We cannot love anything more than Jesus.
- Obedience to Christ is above all things in this world, including family or even our own desires.
- Obedience is complete and total surrender of self and will.
- Jesus prayed "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done." - **Luke 22:42**
- If God calls you to a place of ministry, he will go before you to prepare the way. He will be there with you.
- God tested Abraham—**Genesis 22:1-19**
 - Abraham obeyed God.
 - V. 7-14 The-Lord-Will-Provide
 - Whatever God has called you to do, be obedient to the best of your ability. Trust The-Lord-Will-Provide.
- Count the cost of discipleship. The cost is everything. We withhold nothing. We lay down our lives to follow Christ.
- And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. - **Colossians 3:23-24**
- "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last." Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. - **Revelation 22:12-14**
- **Joshua 1:1-9**
 - Go where God calls you to go. Do what he calls you to do.
 - Be strong and of good courage.
 - Meditate on God's Word day and night.

- God will make your way prosperous.
- You will have good success.

Matthew 20:20-28

- The greatest will be servants.
- Jesus did not come to be served, but to serve and to lay down his life for us.
- The job of a servant is to make life easier and better for others.
- A servant thinks of others before himself.
- Our serving is not forced; it is our choice.

John 13:4-17

- The greatest symbol of ministry is a towel.
- I am here to serve you, and you are here to serve me.
- We serve willingly. It is a joy to serve others.
- When we are serving, we are most like Jesus.
- There is no job beneath us.
- Jesus washed the disciple's feet. We must do the same.