

# Humble Servants

A PRAYER MEDITATION FROM *AMBASSADORS OF JESUS CHRIST*

“Guard against any merely human attitude toward your disciples; and do not pride yourself over what you do. These two things are capable of spoiling all the good there is in carrying out your service. What have you ... that has not been given to you? And if it has been given to you, why ... boast as if you had it on your own?” (Meditation No. 196.3)

## FIRST MOVEMENT

- 1. Pause for a few minutes and put yourself into the presence of our God, who came into the world in loving service of all humankind.**

“The son of man came not to be served but to serve.” (Mt 20:28)

- 2. Ask God, humbly and lovingly, to give you those attitudes and that wisdom necessary to give yourself, like him, in loving service of all of those who come to you in want and need.**

“Learn from me; for I am gentle and humble of heart.” (Mt 11:29)

## SECOND MOVEMENT

- 3. Contemplate the Mystery of God’s Love at Work in the World**

Read the following Scripture passages a few times slowly. What word or words especially catch your attention? Listen to what is being said. Watch what happens. Try to become part of the mystery. Lovingly contemplate Jesus and your relationship with him.

“Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper, laid aside his garments, and, girded himself with a towel. Then he poured water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples’ feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which he was girded. ... And when he had finished washing their feet, and taken his garments, and resumed his place, he said to them, ‘Do you know what I have done to you? You call me teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.’” (Jn 13:3-5, 12-16)

“Jesus called the twelve to him and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them; and their great men exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave; even as the son of man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.’” (Mt 20:25-28)

“Behold, my servant, whom I have chosen, my beloved in whom I delight; I shall place my spirit upon him; and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles ... and in his name the Gentiles will hope.” (Mt 12:18-21)

#### **4. Reflect on the Mystery of God’s Love at Work in Your Own Life**

Where are you being called to help and to serve others?

Are you truly a humble, sensitive and caring servant of others?

In your ministry, do you have those attitudes in you that were in Christ Jesus (cf. Phil 2:5-8)?

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### **THIRD MOVEMENT**

#### **5. Resolve to Be More Open to the Spirit Who Works in and Through You Today**

Has any one thing particularly stirred in you during this time in prayer? What response, if any, to Christ and God’s movement in you do you feel inclined to make today?

If you chose to allow this Scripture to come alive in you now, what would have to change in your life? What are the obstacles to this change?

This prayer meditation is an excerpt from *Ambassadors of Jesus Christ: Prayer Meditations for Christian Educators* (1995) by Brother William Mann, FSC, Brother Henry Dissanayke, FSC, and Brother Isaias Tzegay, FSC. This book contains 35 meditations that invite one to enter into the three movements of Saint John Baptist de La Salle’s *Method of Interior Prayer*.