



# 246



## lesson 2— it's not about me

**\*Illustration- The new boy at school**

**\*We spend the largest part of our lives finding ways to exalt ourselves and put others down, never thinking about the effect our words and actions have on others.**

**Review: Last time, we discussed how Jesus taught that those who are great are servants and showed it by washing His disciples' feet. We are commanded to have the same attitude.**

**Read: John 13:12-15**

**\*Before looking at ways we can put others first, we must first look at ourselves.**

### **I. I Will Choose Not To Be SELFISH or HIGH-MINDED (Romans 12:10)**

- A. I am no GREATER than others
- B. We are to treat OTHERS how WE would like to be treated (Matthew 7:12)

#### **Make it practical**

1. Who do I sit by at school, lunch, church, etc.?
2. Who do I ignore at school, lunch, church, etc.?
3. Who do I make fun of at school, lunch, church, etc.?

**Ask Yourself: Why?**

### **II. I Will Choose Not To JUDGE (Matthew 7:1-5)**

- A. Only GOD can judge
- B. I have my FAULTS
  1. I must realize that people could easily point out my faults
  2. If God gives me room to FAIL, I can give others room to FAIL

***“People break others down so they can be first and feel better about themselves. The family of God should be different, but often it seems that the only difference is that we tend to tack “Just Kidding” on the comments we make so we don’t feel guilty.” -Jeremy Kingsley***

### **III. Jesus Was...**

- A. Not EXCLUSIVE- keeping those viewed as “lower” far from Him; having a “circle of friends” that doesn’t include others
- B. Not JUDGMENTAL- being unforgiving and pointing out peoples mistakes/faults
- C. APPROACHABLE and ACCEPTING
  1. The one person who had the right to judge and “snob” others was Jesus, but...
  2. Everyone knew they were WELCOMED with Jesus

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## Small Group Discussion

**Talk about it:** If the life in the opening illustration would have been rewritten without Charles standing up and being his friend, how do you think his life might have turned out differently?

**Discuss:** When we treat others poorly to make ourselves look “cooler” it can drastically effect someone’s life in a negative way...including turning them away from God.

**Read & Discuss:** Philippians 2:5-8; Mark 9:35; Mark 10:42-45

### I. I Will Choose Not To Be SELFISH or HIGH-MINDED

**Ask Yourself:** Are there people that I look at as being “less” than I am?

### II. I Will Choose Not To JUDGE

**Ask Yourself:** Do I find myself pointing out people’s faults and mistakes and ignoring my own faults and mistakes?

**Discuss:** Re-read the quote on the other side from Jeremy Kingsley. Do you find this to be true for you?

**On your own:**

In what ways are you selfish, high-minded, or exclusive?

In what ways are you judgmental or unforgiving?

In what specific way(s) can I be more approachable and accepting?