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When Jesus walked the earth, he had many ideas that were contrary to the thinking of the world. We tend to look out too much for ourselves and not others. Was I was young, I heard a saying credited to the Mexican heritage: Looking out for numero uno! Or looking out for yourself. Christ thinking was different. To start with he created a new style of leadership:

Matthew 20:28

New International Version

²⁸ just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

One of his greatest examples of this was washing his disciples feet. In those times it was common for leaders to rule with an iron fist. To push others down and walk on the ones in front of you to lift you up into leadership. Christ lifted up others to make him the leader.

Another new concept was how to become rich. Thinking in those days was to take what you wanted. Usually by force or trickery. Christ had another idea on this as well. He shared the idea about how to be rich:

Luke 12:33-34

New International Version

³³ Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never

fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

This idea wasn't the common thinking in that day in age or this one. Jesus was trying to change our thinking. To look for future rewards, the ones in heaven. He mentioned this in the sermon on the mound as well:

Matthew 6:19-24 Niv

¹⁹ “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

²² “The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy,^[c] your whole body will be full of light. ²³ But if your eyes are unhealthy,^[d] your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

²⁴ “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

Christ said to delay gratification. Not that we could not enjoy our life on this earth. Afterall, Jesus attended parties, weddings, drunk wine and ate t banquets. He went to the person.

I enjoy this personal touch,

Chaplain Tony