



O718  
May 06, 2007

## Growing Up Into Greatness

*(Daring to live up to who and whose you are)*

(SERIES: **Loving God Without Becoming An A. S. K.** : 10 of 11)  
by Dr. David Foster

---

"Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things **GROW UP INTO HIM WHO IS THE HEAD, THAT IS, CHRIST**. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work." (Ephes. 4:14-16 NIV)

### Barnyards, bars, and barriers

**We are consumed by self-loathing.**

"Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death." (Rom 8:1-2 NIV)

**We are saturated in self-doubt.**

**We are fixated on liabilities.**

**We willingly define ourselves by our defects.**

### @ the core of greatness

**The fuel of greatness is love.**

"There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love." (1 John 4:18 NIV)

"Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord." (Rom 12:11 NIV)

**The foundation of greatness is identity.**

"But you are not like that, for you have been chosen by God himself—you are priests of the King, you are holy and pure, you are God's very own—all this so that you may show to others how God called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were less than nothing; now you are God's own. Once you knew very little of God's kindness; now your very lives have been changed by it." (1 Pet 2:9-10 TLB)

**The face of greatness is servanthood.**

"Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant," (Mark 10:43 NIV)

**The attitude of greatness is humility.**

"If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. **YOUR ATTITUDE SHOULD BE THE SAME AS THAT OF CHRIST JESUS**: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness." (Phil 2:1-7 NIV)

### 3 never never's

**Greatness never, never settles.**

"If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles." (Mat 5:41 NIV)

**Greatness never, never sours.**

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." (Gal 6:9 NIV)

**Greatness never, never stops.**

"Jesus replied, 'No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.'" (Luke 9:62 NIV)