

Lord, we have twisted the definitions of many things. All too often we have defined excellence in terms of power and prestige instead of service and humility. But in the life and teachings of Jesus, you have defined excellence not in earthly terms, but in heavenly ones.

You have told us that godly excellence calls upon us each to humble ourselves, to be willing to go the extra mile and be inconvenienced for the sake of another, to seek ways to serve instead of wanting to be served.

Help us to follow our Lord's example of service and humility. Instead of our being selfish, enable us, guide us and strengthen us so that we may become more selfless.

The Lord of Lords and the King of Kings humbles himself enough to welcome the outcast, to care for the troubled, to guide the confused, to heal the sick, to wash the feet of the disciples, and to die on the cross for our sins.

Let us seek your excellence in our service to you, our Creator, Redeemer, and Guide —