

# *Life Lessons*

## *“Servant or Celebrity?”*

Will you dare to tape this essay on your mirror and boldly ask yourself this probing question?

***“TODAY,  
will I strive to be a private servant  
or will I long to be a public celebrity?”***

If you check the almanac you will find that May 21, 1832 is only remembered as the 1<sup>st</sup> National Democratic Convention in Baltimore, Maryland. What a tragic loss of history, for on that day **James Hudson Taylor** was born! Taylor founded the **China Inland Mission** in 1865 and is one of the true heroes of Christian History.

Once while speaking for the Lord in Australia, Taylor was introduced as *“our illustrious guest!”* His response defines his character. He said, “Dear friends, I am the *little servant* of an *illustrious master*.” These were not merely the appropriately humble words of a venerated leader. These words capture his whole life in a sentence.

Taylor wrote,

*It is always helpful to us fix our attention on the Godward aspect of Christian work; to realize that the work of God does not mean so much man’s work for God, as God’s won work through man.*

When others tried to praise him, he said,

*All God’s giants have been weak men, who did great things for God because they reckoned on His being with them.*

As he died, his last words were,

*There is nothing small, and there is nothing great: Only God is great, and we should trust HIM fully.”*

Three scriptures were always on the lips of James Hudson Taylor.

*Have faith in God* (Mk. 11:22).

*Hitherto hath the Lord helped us* (1 Sam. 7:12).

*Jehovah-Jireh, the Lord will provide* (Gen. 22:14).

**Truly great people need never display their greatness, it just is!**