

CONVERSATION GUIDE

LET'S TALK ABOUT SELFLESSNESS

HERE'S THE BIG IDEA

LIVING A SELFLESS LIFE BY GUARDING THE CARE OF OTHERS IS THE WAY GOD INTENDED FOR EVERYONE TO EXPERIENCE THE FULLNESS OF LIFE ON EARTH.

Book of Philippians gives us a picture of what it means to live a selfless life. In chapter 2, Paul writes that we should "do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, and guilt to move forward in the freedom of salvation."

CONVERSATION TIP | AVOID A "FIX-IT" MENTALITY

Groups should be a safe place where people can open up but naturally as leaders you will find yourself trying to "fix" every issue that comes up. Most people don't share to "get fixed", they share because they want empathy and someone else to listen. We want to give them that space. It is not necessarily your job to solve every problem or "fix" people. We are all in the same leaky boat trying to plug the same leaky holes. Let's leave the work of transformation to God.

LET'S TALK

BREAK THE ICE

Q. Just for fun what's something that you find yourself daydreaming about having one day?

When we get honest with ourselves, we realize that no one is immune from being self-absorbed. What we don't realize is how much of us caring for just ourselves can keep us from experiencing the fullness of what God has in store for our lives. **Let's talk about living a life of Selflessness!**

Q. Who is someone that has modeled being selfless in your life? What kind of impact did that make on your life?

TELL ME THE TRUTH | PHILIPPIANS 2: 3-7

"3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5 Have the same mindset among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men."

In the Christian faith, Jesus exemplified what it looks to live a life of selflessness. As Paul shares in the book of Philippians, when Jesus came into this world, "he made himself nothing" and took upon Himself "the very nature of a servant" exemplifying for those who call themselves followers of Christ that they are to "have the same mindset" (Philippians 2:5). Jesus came not for His own benefit but for others.

Q: What is an area of your life where you can be less self-absorbed?

Q: What prevents you from having a selfless mindset?

Q: How would your relationships be different if you put others above yourself?

GO DEEPER (OPTIONAL)

Spend time together as a group praying for specific areas where your group wants to become more selfless.

DO SOMETHING

Think of one way you can serve someone else in your life this week. It can be something as simple as a random act of kindness to a stranger to sacrificing your time to help someone in your life.

RESOURCES

"ATM | Selfless Living" – 12Stone Church, September 29, 2019 (Message)