



DISCUSSION GUIDE

February 15/18, 2018

Meet the Needs You See

BIG IDEA: Serving is the pathway to a rooted life.

GROUPS VISION

We believe life transformation happens when we engage with other people, with Jesus as our focus, and take next steps together. A next step is where we Ask, Listen, and Respond to take any action that advances our journey with Jesus.

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KEY VERSE

"Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it."
Genesis 1:28

POTENTIAL NEXT STEP

Take some time to reflect on the needs Jesus has met in your life. Then ask the Holy Spirit to show you how you can serve someone this week.

MAIN POINTS & SCRIPTURES

Serving is one of the most basic aspects of a rooted life. We are called to show the world the love and compassion of Jesus. When we serve, it reveals God to a broken world while connecting us to His heart. Here are a few thoughts on how we can meet the needs we see so we can be rooted in Jesus and flourish in life.

1. **Serving is the pathway to greatness.** Greatness in the kingdom of God is found in having deep roots. Deep roots can be grown by serving others. The desire to be great isn't wrong – we are called to greatness. Jesus says if we want to be great in the kingdom, we must serve. **(Mark 10:42-45)** The world believes greatness is achieved by having a big life. Anyone can grow a big life; only servants can sustain a big life. A big life without deep roots will topple over. Meeting the needs of people around us keeps us humble and develops deep roots. Servanthood is often unknown and unappreciated. A humble and hidden life attracts the favor of God. **(James 4:6, 1 Peter 5:6)** Judgment comes from a heart that is not serving. Servants don't serve others because of their worthiness, we serve because of Jesus' worthiness. **(Luke 10:37)**
2. **Serving isn't just what we do, servant is who we are. (Philippians 2:4-11)** Jesus is the greatest servant of all. We have to repent (change our mind) on what it means to serve. He came to show us that to be fully human and fully alive is to be a servant. If we are included in Christ than serving isn't something we do, it's part of our identity. **(1 John 4:17)** We are kingdom leaders for this world. We fully enjoy our finances, wisdom, possessions, and time when we use them to serve others. **(Genesis 1:28)** We can serve without loving, but we cannot love without serving. **(1 Peter 5:2-3)**
3. **Jesus takes our serving, or lack thereof, personally. (Matthew 25:34-46)** Serving is the overflow of a life rooted in Jesus. When we serve someone else, we are seeing the love Jesus has for them and experiencing the love He has for us. Serving keeps us connected to the heart of God. **(Ephesians 2:10)** Serving doesn't always mean on a global, city, or community level – sometimes serving a basic need of the people around you can make the greatest impact. We can only serve others to the level we believe Jesus serves us. **(John 13:12-17)**

DISCUSSION

1. Tell of a time when someone served you. How did it make you feel? (See point #1)
2. If we are included in Christ than serving isn't just what we do, it's who we are. Where do you see a need that you can fill? (See point #2)
3. **What is the Holy Spirit saying to you? What is your next step?**