

Life Group Discussion Questions

Sermon Series: Why Do We Do That?

Sermon Title: Serve

Sermon Date: 11-10-19

Gospel Gain: We serve because God, out of His mercy served us and has called us follow His example.

Gathering Together (Icebreaker)

- How has God shown grace and mercy in your own life during a time when you didn't deserve it?
- When you think of God's mercy/service towards you, what feelings and thoughts come to you? (share around the room).

Growing Together (Truth/Equipping)

Read: *Romans 12:1-3*

- Romans 12:1 seems to indicate that the way we live, sacrifice, serve and love is to be "in view of God's mercy". Why is it so important for us to keep His mercy in view as we serve others?
- Have you tried serving others without keeping God in the picture? What happens to our service when we lose sight of God?
- (v.1) Why does Paul call us to "offer our bodies" to God? Why not just our hearts?
- (v.3) Do you think we tend to think of ourselves more highly than we ought? What do you think it means to think of ourselves in "sober judgment"?

Read: *Philippians 2:5-11, John 13: 1-16*

- What are some attributes of Jesus Christ stated here that our counter-cultural to how we have been taught to think and live? List them out.
- So, how do we go about changing our mindset to the servant model Christ? Is it just in reading passages like this dozens of times every day, or is there more we can do to marinate our life into this servant lifestyle? Think and reflect together.

Read: *Romans 12:4-8, Ephesians 4:11-16, 1 Corinthians 12:12-31*

- Paul says that the Church is like a body whose parts constantly work and do their part, not to serve themselves, but to serve the health of the whole body? How does that strike you?
- What happens if individual organs in our bodies stop serving the whole of the body?
- Paul says that each is given a different gift (Romans 12:6) to serve in different ways according to the “grace given to us”? We typically think of our service to others resulting from our own talents and abilities, but this verse says that our gifts emerge out of the “grace given to us”. Grace comes not from our ability, but from God’s abilities. How does the knowledge that serving doesn’t rest on your own abilities, but God’s abilities, change your understanding of serving the church and community? How might it free you up to serve more generously? More confidently?

Getting Real with One Another (Accessibility)

- What scares you most about serving? How might you begin marinating yourself in the servant mindset of Christ this week?
- What if anything is holding you back from serving in your local church? Serving in your community?
- Are there people in your midst (small group, neighborhood, workplace) that you are sensing God might be prompting you to serve this week?

Group Prayer Time (Supplication)

Pray for one another that God might give you the eyes of a Servant this week as individuals and as a small group community. Pray that your group might be a microcosm of the Body that seeks to build up one another and reach out to those outside of your group this week.