Group Discussion Guide

Week of September 5, 2021

Life Abundantly - Serving

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- Share a time when you were in a bad spot and somebody helped you.
- How did it bless you to know they were willing to help you?

QUICK REVIEW

Looking over your notes from this past teaching... was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

MAIN POINT

Jesus desires to give us life abundantly which often comes through losing our lives for His sake – loving and serving other people.

DIGGING INTO THE WORD

Read - John 10:10 and 1 John 5:19

 What do we learn from these verses regarding whose advice we should be accepting as we seek to discover life abundantly?

Read - Matthew 10:39

- What does Jesus say is the key to "finding life"?
- How is it possible to "find life" by "losing your life for His sake"?
- Can you share an example from your life when you have experienced this?

Read - Genesis 37:5-11

- What have these dreams revealed to Joseph and his family?
- How do you think "GREATNESS" is defined in our world today?

Read - Mark 10:42-45

What was Jesus trying to teach His disciples about becoming GREAT?

All the disciples, except for John, were killed for their servant-like faith in Jesus.

- Do you think they found "GREATNESS"? How?
- How would you define "GREATNESS" in the kingdom of God?
- How have you struggled trying to pursue greatness in this world vs. pursuing greatness in the kingdom of God?

Read - Genesis 37:12-14

• How does Joseph display a servant heart to his father Jacob?

Read – Genesis 37:15-17

 How does Joseph, going the extra 15 miles to find his brothers who hated him, reveal a servant heart?

Read – Matthew 5:43-44

- Why do you think Jesus wants us to serve people who hate us?
- Share a time God called you to serve someone who hated you?

In Joseph's life, every time he served, his life became more difficult. Yet still, Joseph continued to serve no matter what difficulty he found himself in.

- Share a time you agreed to serve, and it made your life more difficult?
- What causes us to resist serving when it makes our life more difficult?

Read - Matthew 7:13-14

According to Jesus, if we only serve when it's easy, what will we miss out on?

TAKING IT HOME

What practical things can you do this week to serve others?

PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS