

SHOULD HAPPENS

Moving from a **Should** Life to a **Good** Life

September 7 - 29

Should Happens - Week 2 September 14-15, 2019 | Todd Clark

This weekend, Pastor Todd talks about how we often “should” on the other people in our lives.

CELEBRATE

At the beginning of your small group time, it's good to share about your week and share with each other how you're doing. So, spend some time, right now, connecting before jumping into the discussion questions. You can use the *Connect* section as a guide. If you're doing this Study Guide on your own, take a moment to focus your mind on God and what He might want you to hear today.

CONNECT

1. Talk about the most difficult job you have ever had. What made it so difficult? What did you learn from doing that job?
2. Talk about the title of our new series – how do you think about the idea of “should's” in your life today? What would your biggest “should” be at this point in your life?

Before watching the [sermon](#), or moving on in this study, take a minute to remember that God is always with you. Pray as a group for God to bless your conversation and open your eyes and hearts to what He wants you to hear.

REFLECT

Before moving forward in your study, take a moment and review the key points from this weekend's message.

1. The way we "should" on each other: we have secret job descriptions and expectations of other people, the other people are completely unaware of our expectations for them, they quickly fail to meet our secret expectations, and so we get angry and "should" all over them.
2. When people try to guilt me into things, I become resentful. When people offer grace to me in things, I become responsive.
3. God has plans for people that preceded your plans for people.
4. The way to stop "shoulding" on others is to value others the way we should.

SCRIPTURES USED IN THE MESSAGE: Jeremiah 29:11, Luke 10:38-42, Philippians 2:3,

RESPOND

1. Talk about a thought, phrase, or moment from this weekend's message that struck you. What made it resonate with you?
2. When Pastor Todd was talking about "others" in his message, talk about which people popped into your head. Family? Co-workers? Why did those particular people come to mind?
3. Read John 13:3-15. Read slowly and make a note of any words or phrases that stand out to you. This passage is part of a section called the "Farewell Discourse." Chapters 13-17 are the last recorded teachings of Jesus to His disciples before he is crucified. It is a good idea to read all four chapters when you have a chance. In Jesus' time, the job of washing people's feet before dinner was given to the "lowest" status person in the house (children, slaves, etc.)
4. The scene John tells us about is a familiar one. The meal was a common celebration known as Passover or the Feast of Unleavened bread. Talk about a family or faith tradition you practice on a regular basis. What are some of the expectations people have for you (or that you have for others) in the midst of those traditions?
5. In Jesus' time, most of the roads were dirt roads and they were traveled by both humans and animals. You can only imagine the kind of stuff that the disciples had on their feet when they arrive at dinner! Talk about how Jesus' actions confirm or contradict your expectations of who Jesus was.
6. Peter's objections to Jesus have everything to do with what Peter thinks Jesus "should" do (13:6-10). Talk about how you see Peter's expectations changing within the course of two sentences. What are your expectations for what Jesus should do for you in your own life?
7. Jesus ends the scene by clarifying why He did *exactly* what He should do. And then, Jesus instructs the disciples on what *they* are invited to do as a response (13:11-15). Talk about how this image of Jesus washing people's feet as well as Peter's response can

help us remove the "should's" from others in our lives. How does meditating on this story bring specific situations to mind in your own life, times where you need to remove a "should" from someone in your life?

Closing Prayer:

God, thank you for serving us so that we can learn how to serve others. Help us understand where and why we have put expectations on others, and instead of holding people to unfair expectations help us to serve them as you have served us. Give us the wisdom to know when our expectations are unfair. Then, give us the courage to release those unfair expectations and follow Your example on how to move forward with others.

Amen.