



Discussion Guide

February 22

Mark 10:44–45

⁴⁴ “...and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Read Mark 10:44–45

1. How does Jesus redefine greatness in this passage?
2. Why is servanthood central to life in the church? What other passages regarding serving, servanthood or service can you find elsewhere in the New Testament?
3. Where have you been involved in serving in a local church? What benefit did others receive from your service? What impact has your experience of serving had on you?

1 Peter 4:8–11

⁸ Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace: ¹¹ whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Read 1 Peter 4:8-11

4. Discuss how it is that love covers a multitude of sins. What does the author mean by this?
5. Who should be the beneficiary of whatever spiritual gifts you have?
6. Based on this passage, what is the ultimate end of us using our gifts in service?

Romans 12:4-8

⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Read Romans 12:4-8

7. What does this passage teach about unity and diversity in the church?
8. Why is it important that every gift be valued and used?
9. How might discovering and using our gifts strengthen the whole body?
10. In your group, take some time to affirm the gifts that you see in each of the members of your group.
11. Briefly reflect on how the giftedness your group sees in you is expressed in active, intentional ways by you.