

Discipleship Guide

Sermon: The Heart of The Home | Provision Speaker: Pastor John Eric Zayas

Date: June 29, 2025

Small Group Guide: The Heart of Provision

Opening Prayer: Ask a volunteer to open the group in prayer, inviting God's presence and guidance for your discussion.

Key Takeaways

- We are called to be God's provision for others His hands and feet in the world.
- Serving others is a form of worship and a reflection of Christ's example.
- Our mission is to serve God and our neighbor, which often requires sacrifice and stepping out of our comfort zone.
- The church is meant to be a mechanism for God's investment in people's lives.

Discussion Questions

- 1. The pastor mentioned that "we are the provision of God." What does this mean to you personally? How does it challenge your view of your role in the church and community?
- 2. Reflect on Matthew 25:40-45. How does this passage shape our understanding of serving others?
- 3. The sermon emphasized that serving is a form of worship. How does this

- perspective change the way you approach acts of service?
- 4. What are some areas in your life where you feel God might be calling you to "pour out" for others, even if it's uncomfortable or sacrificial?
- 5. The pastor spoke about the church's various ministries and outreach efforts. Which of these resonated with you, and why?
- 6. How can we balance serving others with taking care of our own needs and avoiding burnout?

Practical Applications:

- 1. Identify one concrete way you can serve someone this week, whether in the church or your community.
- 2. Reflect on your gifts and talents. How might God be calling you to use these to serve others?
- 3. Consider committing to a regular serving opportunity in the church or community. Discuss options with the group.
- 4. Practice viewing your daily interactions through the lens of "serving Christ" this week. How does this change your approach?
- 5. Set aside time to pray, asking God to reveal areas where He wants you to be His provision for others.

Closing Prayer: Close the session by praying for each other, asking God for the strength and courage to be His hands and feet in the world.

5-Day Devotionals

Day 1: The Great I Am

Reading: Exodus 3:13-15

Devotional: Today we reflect on God's self-revelation as "I Am Who I Am." This name speaks to God's eternal nature, His self-existence, and His unchanging character. In a world of constant change, God remains steadfast. How comforting it is to know that the God we serve is not bound by time or circumstance!

As you go through your day, consider the areas of your life where you need stability. Remember that God, the great I Am, is present in every moment. How might embracing God's unchanging nature change your perspective on your current challenges? Take time to praise God for His constancy and invite His unchanging presence into the ever-changing aspects of your life.

Day 2: Serving as Worship

Reading: Matthew 25:31-46

Devotional: Jesus teaches us that serving others is a form of worship to Him. When we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, or visit the sick, we are serving Christ Himself. This passage challenges us to see Christ in every person we encounter, especially those in need.

Reflect on your attitude towards service. Do you view it as a burden or as an opportunity to worship? Consider the ways you can serve others in your daily life - at home, work, or in your community. Remember, each act of service, no matter how small, is noticed and valued by God. How can you make service a more integral part of your worship? Ask God to open your eyes to the needs around you and give you the courage to respond with love and compassion.

Day 3: The Power of Provision

Reading: Philippians 4:10-20

Devotional: God is Jehovah Jireh, our provider. Paul reminds us that God will meet all

our needs according to His riches in glory. This promise isn't just about material provision, but encompasses all aspects of our lives - emotional, spiritual, and physical.

Think about the areas in your life where you feel lack. Have you brought these needs before God? Sometimes, we try to meet our own needs or look to others instead of trusting in God's provision. Today, practice surrendering your needs to God. Thank Him in advance for His provision, even if you can't see it yet. How might your life change if you truly believed that God will meet all your needs?

Day 4: Being God's Hands and Feet

Reading: Romans 12:1-8

Devotional: As believers, we are called to be the body of Christ - His hands and feet in this world. Each of us has been given gifts to serve others and build up the church. When we use these gifts, we become living sacrifices, offering our lives as worship to God.

What gifts has God given you? Are you using them to serve others and glorify God? Sometimes we may feel inadequate or compare our gifts to others. Remember, in God's economy, every gift is valuable when used for His purpose. Ask God to show you how you can use your unique gifts to serve His kingdom today. How can you be God's hands and feet in your sphere of influence?

Day 5: The Transforming Presence of the Holy Spirit

Reading: John 14:15-27

Devotional: Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit as our helper, comforter, and guide. The Spirit's presence transforms us, empowering us to live out our faith and bear fruit for God's kingdom.

Reflect on the role of the Holy Spirit in your life. Are you aware of His presence? Do you rely on His guidance? Often, we try to navigate life in our own strength, forgetting that we have the power of God living within us. Today, consciously invite the Holy Spirit into every aspect of your day. Ask for His guidance in your decisions, His comfort in your struggles, and His power to overcome temptation. How might your day be different if you were constantly aware of the Spirit's presence?