

Key Scripture

34 Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' ... 40 And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.' – Matthew 25:31-46 (ESV)

"And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." 36 And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" 37 And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." ... 42 And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. 43 But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, 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." – Mark 10:35-45 (ESV)

"Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. 2 During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, 3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, 4 rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. 5 Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him." - John 13:1-10 (ESV)

Search for the "Renewal Church Denver" app or "St. John's Denver" app in your app store.

More of God's truth all week long at renewaldenver.tv and sjdenver.tv

Start Talking: Find a conversation starter for your group. (15 Min)

- What have you done recently to help someone else?
- Do you think motives matter when helping someone?

Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking. (10 Min)

- Read Matthew 25:31-46. How does that make you feel?
- Read Mark 10:35-45. How did the disciples feel about James and John's request? How would you feel if you were them?
- In Mark 10:35-45, what important lesson does Jesus teach them?
- Read John 13:1-10. Why was this action counter-cultural?
- Read James 2:14-26. Is that passage convicting or comforting?

Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness. (10 Min)

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer felt that he was tremendously privileged in life, and therefore it was his responsibility to serve "the least of these." What is it about the Gospel that calls us to look beyond our own needs to the needs of others?
- Can you think of examples of servant leadership in your life, work, family, or in the world? Do you think there are world leaders that lead like in Mark 10:44?

Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week. (10 Min)

- In what way can you use servant leadership in your life?
- In our community we regularly value Serving IN (volunteering in worship on Sunday morning) and OUT (meeting needs outside the walls of our building). How are you doing with that balance?
- One part of our culture has been to encourage other to Serve Two / Worship Two. To volunteer in worship twice a month and to simply attend and be present twice a month. How are you doing with this?

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power. (15 Min)

- For suggestions on structuring prayer time, see the *Group Prayer Ideas* page in this packet.

Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three. (15 Min)

1. What's a passage of scripture that has impacted you this week? Read it to the group and explain why.
2. Is there anything God is leading you to repent of?
3. How's your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going? (*3 Conversations with New People, Learn 2 Names, Make 1 Meaningful Connection*)
4. Who is one non-believer that you need to reach out to this week?
5. What's something you'd like someone else to check in with you about this week?
6. Pray for one another.

Group Prayer Ideas

Pray for Each Other

- Everyone share their prayer requests before entering into the time of prayer;
- As you open a time of spontaneous prayer, ask people to pray for each other's requests / not their own;
- *Option: Have one person record the group's prayers in a prayer journal. Periodically review the journal to see just how much God answers prayer!*
- *Option: Conclude with the Lord's Prayer or Apostle's Creed.*
- *Option: Do a "Prayer Exchange," assigning people to pray for one another this week, & text as you do.*

Responsive Psalm Prayer

- Choose a psalm (ex: 13, 116, 136, 139, etc.);
- Have the leader and the people pray through the Psalm by trading verses responsively,
OR go around the circle and have each person take the next verse.

Missional Prayer

- Have everyone go around and pray specifically for a non-Christian friend, neighbor, co-worker, etc.
- *Option: Have everyone use the "MissionHub" app to set a prayer reminder for that person OR write the name on a 3x5 index card, take it with them and put it somewhere that they'll see it.*

Category Prayer

- The leader guides the group by inviting spontaneous prayer around a "category" at a time, allowing a couple of minutes per category;

Ex: Relational Circles

Our Families
Our Church
Our Neighbors
Our Co-Workers
Our City
Our Country
Our World

Ex: A.C.T.S.

Adoration
Confession
Thanksgiving
Supplication

Ex: Lord's Prayer

Petition 1: Holy Be Your Name
Petition 2: Your Kingdom Come
Petition 3: Your Will Be Done
Petition 4: Give us Today our Daily Bread
Petition 5: Forgive us our Trespasses
Petition 6: Lead us Not into Temptation
Petition 7: Deliver us from Evil

Ex: Healing

Physical
Emotional
Spiritual

Simultaneous Prayer

- Set a timer (ex: 3 min) and ask everyone to pray simultaneously (out loud) until the timer runs out.

Timed Prayer

- Set a timer (ex: 20 min) and then go around the circle taking turns praying until the timer runs out.