

Saved People Serve People

Week of September 17, 2017



These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.

Message Recap:

Read Matthew 20:20-34

Jesus shakes the foundation of the world by what he reveals to the disciples here. Our humanity tells us, from the very minute we are born, that we are number one, and that our needs should always come first. As we get older, we understand better, but this inherent human trait never really leaves us. The history books are written by those with power; we see it time and time again. Wars have been fought and billions of lives taken over this concept of trying to be at the top. Jesus unravels all this by his example, and by his words that go against what our human nature tells us: “The son of man did not come into this world to be served, but instead to serve others, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” This is the Jesus difference!

Pray

Lord, we know that it is not in our nature to put others first. It is not easy for us to ignore the constant voice in our head that screams “me”. But God, we know that you sent your son to this world to change the way that we thought about life. He was the perfect example of selfless service, even though it meant an excruciating death on a cross. God, give us the strength to mimic this, even if it’s just a glimpse of what Jesus did. Help us put others first so that we can reveal you to them. Thank you for being a good God and a loving Father.

Getting Started

- Think of a time when something was different (in a good way) than you’d expected it to be. How was it different, and how did this affect you?
- Now, thinking about the Jesus difference, what is it to you, and how does *that* affect you?

Digging Deeper

1. How is serving, “saving”? What Scriptures support a life of serving?
2. When was a time when someone put your interests over their own? How did this reveal the love of the Father?
3. Turning the lens toward yourself, are *you* saved? If so, how has that made you different?
4. If you are saved, are you being the difference to those around you? What do you think “being the difference” means?
5. Do you know what your spiritual gifts are? Do you know what traits you possess that could be or are a good way for you to serve others? Describe. How can those be used to edify the church?
6. What is one way that you’ve acted in service towards others? Describe your experience and feelings.
7. What is one place, inside or outside the church, where you feel God is calling you to serve? Are you? Why or why not?

Living Jesus

Jesus was the perfect example for us to follow. There may be some good examples throughout history of people who devoted their lives to the service of others, but no one can come close to the life that Jesus lived. We must strive to live by his example, and we must ask him for help along the way. It’s not an easy struggle to go against what the world tells us, but through us God can and will change the world.

Remember: Saved people serve people. If you’re really saved, the difference will show!

Your Story

Consider the Jesus difference in your own life. How has it made you different? How has it made you better? **Take heart:** Though it won’t be easy, we have the perfect example of service right in front of us. All we have to do is open the Bible and find encouragement. God will reveal to us how to be more selfless through his Word.