



## Serving is Seizing the Moment to Advance the Kingdom

Week of July 23, 2018

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 6:24-33

If serving is something you “do” now and then, you will always struggle to find the time to serve. But if you *are* a servant, serving will fill everything you do, all the time. If you *are* a servant then you will seize every moment to advance the Kingdom. The Kingdom of God is the saving, healing, and redeeming reign of God on Earth. It exists wherever and whenever God’s will is done. So everything you do, in every moment of your day, either advances the destructiveness of the world, or it advances the Kingdom of God. Being a Jesus follower means you intentionally choose the things of the Kingdom over the things of the world, believing that nothing God wants is impossible on Earth. What are you going to live for? Will you continue to choose the ways of the world, or will you make the conscious passionate choice to serve the Kingdom in every moment of your day? Choose to do what Jesus did, advancing the Kingdom through a healing touch and a saving truth.

### Pray

Lord, I want to be the kind of Jesus-follower who intentionally chooses the things of the Kingdom over the things of the world. Give me the eyes to see every moment you have for me to advance your Kingdom. Help me feel compassion towards the people you put into my path. Make my heart break for the broken and show me how I can make a difference today, and every moment within it. I don’t want to serve the world; I only want to serve you.

### Getting Started

- What was something you did spontaneously lately that turned out to be a really good thing?
- What was the last intentional decision you made? Was it’s effect on you or others?

### Digging Deeper

1. The Kingdom of Heaven can be hard to understand because it’s not just something in the future; it’s also the life and decisions we make now as Jesus followers. Look at Matthew chapter 14 and discuss some of the parables Jesus tells about the Kingdom of Heaven. What can we learn about it?
2. Read Matthew 16:19. Explain what this verse means in the context of Kingdom living.
3. God’s Kingdom expands with every obedient act we make. What are some of those acts that expand the Kingdom?
4. In Matthew 6:24-33 Jesus says we can’t serve two masters. Explain why we have to intentionally choose Kingdom, or we default to choose the ways of the world. Why can’t they co-exist?
5. Describe what a day would look like living just for the world. Then compare that to what a day living for the Kingdom would look like.
6. How will you serve the Kingdom in the coming week?

### Living Jesus

When you seek His Kingdom and His righteousness first, everything you need will be given to you (Matthew 6:33). Imagine living without worry, without fear, knowing that you are living in your purpose and that all your needs will be taken care of! How would this change your life? How would you respond to Jesus? To others? It takes a conscious, intentional choice to serve the Kingdom. Choose to serve the interests of Jesus in the lives of others in each moment instead of choosing to serve yourself. Change each life you come into contact with by sharing a healing touch powered by the saving truth of Jesus.

### What’s Your Story?

How do you advance the Kingdom by seizing the moment? If you have a story about how God used you recently to advance the Kingdom, consider sharing it with us to encourage other people. Simply fill out [this form](#) to share your story with us.

>> Go to [SevernRunner.info](#) and choose the Stories tile. Then follow the link provided to share your own story; we will even connect you with a writer to help you.