

Serving is The Act of Loving People Toward the Life of Jesus

Week of August 5, 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 James 1:14-17 and
Luke 10:25-17

Anyone who's ever stepped foot in a church that preaches the Bible has heard the truths about what the Bible says about love. Many have heard the Church preach phrases like 'love people', yet they will never step foot back in the church because that's all it ever amounts to – words. That's because, as James said, words without deeds is meaningless. Faith without action is no faith at all. Jesus says that we need to 'do', and he told us *what* to do; not so that we would then receive the Father's love, but because of the inspiration of a love *already given*. Being loved by Jesus always translates into being Jesus' love to others, and serving people is the way that we help the world understand what the Father has done for us, and for them.

Pray

Lord, please help us to not call ourselves the kind of Christians who rejoice in receiving God's love, yet never step out into the world to *be* that love. Instead, let us have an active faith that translates your incredible love for the broken all around us. Revive your church Jesus, here and everywhere in the world, and shine brightly through us so that every man, woman, boy, and girl will see just how much you love them. Show us how to be your love today.

Digging Deeper

Getting Started

- Think of a case where someone had to help you with something you didn't quite understand. What was it, and how did they help you figure it out?
- Why do you think it is that serving is one of the main ways to help people understand God's love?

Digging Deeper

1. Have you had the chance to serve recently in any way, at home or out? What impact did it have on the person you served? On yourself?
2. Do you ever find yourself having a hard time with letting God's love in? Share about why this is hard for you.
3. Why do you think we tend to understand *what* God calls us to do, yet many times don't actually go and do it? What is the disconnect? What could you do to change that behavior?
4. Read Ephesians 2:10. There we are called "God's handiwork." With that in mind, think of some things you're good at and share how could you use those to serve others?
5. Name one or two people in your life whom you know you need to love better? How could you serve them this next week?
6. What is the biggest thing you are learning about yourself as we are discussing being a servant?

Living Jesus

In Luke chapter 10:25, Jesus confirms to a so-called 'expert in the law' that we should love God first and love people second to inherit eternal life. Jesus knew that only service in love would fully translate the extravagance of Heaven's outstretched arms. He knew that to lead people to God's love, we had to *be* God's love—the kind of love that translates what a million words never can. We must decide if we're just going to hear the words in our head, or if we're going to let the love of Jesus flow through our hands and feet. Only then will we be "speaking" something that makes sense.

What's Your Story?

It's up to you to decide if you're going to live translating God's love, or if empty words will be wasted on deaf ears. If you claim to truly love Jesus, then the choice is clear. Will you follow God's call? Do you have a story to share about showing God's love to someone in the past few weeks? 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.

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