

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

TRUE LOVERS - PART 5

Scripture: Philippians 2:5-11

Pastor Miles McPherson – May 17 2015

Pastor Miles continued with the True Lovers series focusing on serving - how we can love God with acts of service.

MEMORY VERSE

About who is the greatest:

And He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all."

Mark 9:35

DISCUSSION STARTERS

WHAT WAS YOUR MOST DREADED WAITING EXPERIENCE?: (either play charades and silently act out take turns sharing) When you have to wait for something, what experience do you dread the most? (examples: long lines at the DMV or theme park, allow 4-6 weeks for delivery, waiting for repair or cable technician to arrive etc).

TAKE A FEW MINUTES:

Think about a time when someone went out of their way and took really good care of you or served you somehow. Maybe it was a time when you really needed it or it was unexpected but very appreciated.

SHARE WITH THE GROUP:

- * What did the other person do for you?
- * How did being served *initially* make you feel?
- * After the experience, what was it like?

Pastor Miles asked: Are you available to God to DO WHATEVER He wants, WHENEVER He wants, for the BENEFIT of others? Share what makes it hard or a struggle to be available to do WHAT He wants WHEN He wants us to do it?

What are some of the reasons we tell ourselves:

"I'm not available to do WHATEVER God wants because _____

or

"I couldn't do what God wanted THEN (or NOW) because _____



STUDY QUESTIONS

Read Philippians 2:5-11

[1] In our daily interactions with others, how do we use advantages status in our relationships? to make ourselves seem 'better' or above someone else?

[2] What was a noteworthy or memorable experience you had serving someone? What made it stand out for you? Was there some hesitation initially?

[3] What is it like to be waiting for someone to do something for you? What is our reaction when it takes longer than we expected or not as soon as we want?

[4] What is the worst someone has ever Think of a time when someone mis treated you? Could you serve them with a loving attitude? How can we encourage someone struggling with anger toward another who treated them badly poorly?

[5] Read **Mark 9:35** How can that verse apply to us to decrease the anxiety or worry less when waiting for someone to do something for us?

[6] In the Sunday message, Pastor Miles said that every single one of us has something we have not done for God. What encouragement can you offer to someone struggling with **rationalizing delayed obedience to God?**

[7] In the Sunday message, Pastor Miles said we are all operating on **God's time**. How can we balance taking care of ourselves, serving others, and serving God?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Pray quietly about someone in your life God has asked you to serve in some way. How and when can you do something for them? How can we be a loving servant with an attitude like Christ toward that person(s).

Exercise: Break into groups of 2 or 3. Share what God is calling you do that will be a benefit to that person or persons. Commit to text or call each other once you have finished serving them.

TAKE IT HOME!

This week, be obedient to God. DO that one thing we have when been avoiding that would serve God.

Take action. Be that loving servant toward the person you discussed in the Put It Into Practice.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_99ySDoC1fw

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IhSro8Kpyfs>

