

ALL IN OWNERSHIP – LIFE Group Study Guide

Save to Serve

Pastor Marcus Preciado Nov 6, 2016

This week, each campus had its campus pastor provide the message. At Pt Loma, Pastor Marcus asked us to be a little uncomfortable as he delivered a wonderful message on serving.

Most that come to church are not serving and are missing out on being more blessed. We are called to serve and to love others. Pastor Marcus urged us to consider "stepping up" our game, set aside our pride and overcome the fear that keeps us from serving. The enemy hates us and uses fear to keep us from serving. In order to serve, we must reject fear. Pastor Marcus provided 3 main points:

- * **Serving God rejects fear** Josh 1:9
- * **Serving God reveals faith** James 2:25-26
- * **Serving God remains forever** Josh 3:6 22-25

God saved us so we can serve. God has something great for us.

Opening Discussion:

Have everyone share: What is something you do that is your passion? Is there a hobby, an activity or an event that you love to do?

Opening Questions:

1. Using the opening discussion question, who was most instrumental or influential in helping you achieve your passion? How did they help you along?
2. What was your greatest experience while serving?

Going Deeper:

3. Pass out 3x5 (or similar) cards to everyone.

Have everyone fill in 2 reasons you or others would or have used as an excuse for not serving.

Collect all the cards, and read the answers one at a time.

For each answer, what are some arguments to counter the reasons given for not serving?

4. **ACTIVITY: Have everyone pair off in groups of 2**

The enemy (the devil) hates us but uses very nice words and tempting language to lure us into NOT serving. Decide who in the pairs will go first. Have the person going second close their eyes and is not to talk. The person going first then takes a minute to try to convince their partner why they should not serve. Make convincing statements like the enemy would use.

After a minute, reverse the roles.

What was it like actually hearing the suggestions about not to serve compared to getting those kind of thoughts in your head?

Did the verbal reasons seem more or less convincing than when the enemy gets into our head?

Why?

5. **Remain in your groups of 2.** Have each answer the following question:
What needs to be adjusted, tweaked or re-calibrated in your life?

6. READ Josh 1:7-9. How can we encourage one another to reject the fear?

7. One barrier to stepping up and serving is when we get comfortable with a bad situation. Describe a time when you got comfortable with something undesirable. Perhaps it was a dysfunctional relationship, an addiction, pain or something regrettable.

8. READ Eph 6:10-12. Suggest forming up into different groups of 2 or 3 for this question:

Pastor Marcus shared that when we prepare to serve, extra spiritual attacks from the enemy occur. What can we do when these spiritual attacks happen?

9. Pastor Marcus shared the story about Matthew, a high school freshman who has been in a wheelchair the last 4 years. He serves on the school football team as equipment manager, video tape editor and a host of other duties supporting the team. On the last game of the season, with time running out, the coach called time out. The coach wanted to do something special for Matthew who had been to every practice and watched every game. After conferring with the referees and the other

team's coach, a plan was quickly made. They put a helmet on Matthew and rolled him out into the game. Here is a video of what happened:

<https://youtu.be/5YhvQGgGDZg>

The coach got players on both sides to conspire to give Matthew an unforgettable experience.

The other team gave up a shut out to have Matthew score on the last play of the game.

It was an unforgettable moment. Many did something for someone else.

What can we do to 'conspire' with others and serve in an amazing or unforgettable way?

We opened by asking what is something you love to do?

Now we ask what can you do to serve in love?