

PERSPECTIVES

TOOLS FOR CREATING A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW | ROMANS 12:2



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WEEK 1: SERVING OTHERS

ICE BREAKER

WORSHIP

PRAYER

SERMON REWIND

This past weekend Pastor Dan's message "*Serving Others, Part 1: Learning to Love with Your Life*" focused on the significance of serving others with a sacrificial and loving heart. He emphasizes the freedom we have in Christ to choose love over selfishness. Pastor Dan encouraged us to serve beyond our comfort zones, even serving those who may have hurt us, as an expression of genuine love and healing. Serving others represents a transformative act that impacts those being served, fosters personal growth, and strengthens relationships within the church community.

KEY VERSES

Luke 22:26, "*But it is not this way with you, but the one who is the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like the servant.*"

Mark 8:35, "*For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospels will save it.*"

1 Thessalonians 1:6-8, "You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1 Pastor Dan mentioned agape love as the kind of sacrificial love we should demonstrate when serving others, based on **Galatians 5:13-15**.

- a. What does it mean to serve others with 'agape' love? When thinking about your daily routines, how can you practice and demonstrate "agape" love every day?
- b. Can you think of a time when someone served you with agape love? How did it impact your relationship with them and your own ability to serve others?

2 Pastor Dan encouraged us to serve those who have hurt us, emphasizing that this act of love can bring healing to our own hearts and minds.

- a. How can serving others who have hurt us lead to healing in our relationships?
- b. Is there someone in your life who has hurt you that you can serve in some way? What effect might this have on your relationship and your own healing process?

3 Pastor Dan warns against the dangers of self-centeredness and the importance of serving others.

- a. What are some practical ways to break free from self-centeredness and live a life of service to others?

4 In the message, Pastor Dan emphasized that believers are no longer bound by the Old Testament law, but instead have the freedom to choose to serve others in love.

- a. How does our freedom in Christ allow us to choose to serve others?

We heard that love for others, summed up in **Leviticus 19:18**, was always the point of the law.

- a. How can you apply the principle of “love for others” in your understanding of Scripture and in your approach to relationships with others?

DIVE DEEPER

Reflection: Take a deep breath and read....

1. Looking back at your life, how do you, as a follower of Jesus, seek to work with and allow the Holy Spirit to transform you?
2. What are some key areas of your life that you have not fully surrendered to the Lord?
3. What are the areas that you need to reflect on and surrender as you seek to allow the Holy Spirit to transform you and continue to grow you as servants and imitators of the Lord?

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME

- Ask God to help us recognize opportunities to serve others this week.
- Pray for the strength to serve even when it's difficult or inconvenient.
- Request for God to guide us in loving our neighbors as ourselves.

NOTES



WEEK 2: GIVING YOUR LIFE AWAY

ICE BREAKER

WORSHIP

PRAYER

SERMON REWIND

In *Called to Care, Part 2: "Giving Your Life Away,"* we delve into the theme of serving others by sacrificially giving our lives in service, drawing from **Galatians 5:13-15**. By examining Jesus' act of washing His disciples' feet in **John 13:4-15**, we underscored the significance of serving others with humility and love, even those who have hurt us. He challenges listeners to use their power and freedom to serve rather than control, echoing Jesus' teaching in **Luke 22:25** on true greatness through service. The message culminates in a call for intentional, generous service in various aspects of life, emphasizing the blessings and joy that come from serving others as illustrated by Jesus' example.

KEY VERSES

Galatians 5:14-15, *"For the whole law can be summed up in this one command: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. But if you are always biting and devouring one another, watch out! Beware of destroying one another.'"*

John 13:15, *"I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you."*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

How does Jesus' example of washing the disciples' feet challenge your view of power and authority?

2

Pastor talked about Jesus having all power and authority, yet choosing to serve instead of asserting His power over others, using the example from **John 13:4-15**.

- a.** In what areas of your life can you follow Jesus' example and choose to serve others rather than using your power or position for self-gain?
- b.** Why do you think serving others is a key way to show the world God's presence?

3

Pastor emphasized using our freedom to willingly, generously, and personally give ourselves away to others, including serving at work, our families, and the community.

- a.** What does it mean to use our freedom to give life to others?

4

Pastor mentioned that serving and loving others is not just a commandment but also leads to greater happiness and blessings in our lives.

- a.** Why is serving others linked to greater happiness and blessings?
- b.** Can you think of a time when you served others and experienced joy or blessings as a result? Share your experience with the group.

5

Pastor used Jesus' example of taking off his robes and positioning himself as a servant, explaining that serving others requires intentional decision-making.

- a.** What is one practical step you can take to use your freedom and resources to serve others in your daily life, following Jesus' example?

DIVE DEEPER

Reflection: Take a deep breath and read...

In **John 13:15**, Jesus tells the disciples to do what He has done to them. Simon Peter rejected Jesus' desire to wash his feet. Jesus was demonstrating pure servant leadership. Peter believed that washing feet was demeaning work and wanted Jesus to distance Himself from such a task.

1. Was Peter's response self-serving, or was he humble?
2. What does this symbolism of feet washing represent, and how do we overcome the intensity of vulnerability to accomplish Jesus' will for us to do what He has done?
3. In your life, what does doing as He has done look like?

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME

- Ask God to help us serve others even when it's difficult, as Jesus did.
- Pray for the strength to serve those who may have hurt us or who may not appreciate our efforts.
- Ask for a heart that willingly and generously serves our colleagues, family, and community.

NOTES



WEEK 3: COMPASSION

ICE BREAKER

WORSHIP

PRAYER

SERMON REWIND

In *Called to Care, Part 3: "Compassion,"* we delve into the importance of understanding and embodying true compassion in our lives. Highlighting the parable of the Good Samaritan, we learned the significance of showing compassion and being a neighbor to those in need. Jesus' own acts of compassion serve as a model for believers to follow, going beyond surface-level gestures to truly empathize with and support others. By embracing compassion as both a feeling and an action, and imitating Jesus' selfless love, we can bring comfort and joy to those around us, reflecting the heart of our compassionate God.

KEY VERSES

Ephesians 4:32, *"Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you."*

Psalms 63:3, *"Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, My lips will praise You."*

Matthew 9:13, *"But go and learn what this means: 'I desire compassion, and not sacrifice,' for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1 What does it mean to be truly compassionate in today's world?

- a. Can you think of a time when you offered or received compassion? How did that experience impact you?

2 The parable of the Good Samaritan emphasizes the importance of showing compassion and being a neighbor to those in need. **(Luke 10:30-37)**

- a. Why do you think Jesus chose a Samaritan to demonstrate compassion?
- b. How can you be a good neighbor in your community and extend compassion to others?

3 **Philippians 2:5-8** encourages us to have the same attitude as Jesus, who humbled himself and became a servant.

- a. Why is it important for followers of Christ to emulate the compassionate nature of Jesus?

4 God's compassion always extends beyond a feeling into an action of caring for others.

- a. What are some practical ways you can transform your compassionate feelings into actionable steps?

5 Many people do not aspire to be compassionate and are hesitant to engage with suffering.

- a. Why do you think people hesitate to engage with suffering and pain, and how can we overcome this fear?
- b. In what areas of your life do you find it difficult to be compassionate, and how can you challenge yourself to overcome this fear?

DIVE DEEPER

Reflection: Take a deep breath and read...

Ephesians 4:32 is a powerful reminder of God's grace and forgiveness. Jesus's heart is mercy, grace, and forgiveness rooted in His love. Following His character brings life to others and to ourselves through Him.

1. How do kindness, tenderness, and forgiveness change the world for Jesus?
2. What are your struggles in learning to practice them in every area of your life, even in the uncomfortable areas?

GROUP CHALLENGE

Discuss as a group where you can serve together, putting into practice a compassion that leads to action.

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME

- Pray for God to help us feel and show compassion like Jesus did.
- Pray for compassion that leads to action.
- Ask for the opportunity to serve others and enter into their pain.
- Pray for strength to lay down our differences and embrace others in need.

NOTES



WEEK 4: YOUR CALLING

ICE BREAKER

WORSHIP

PRAYER

SERMON REWIND

In *Called to Care, Part 4: "Your Calling,"* we delved into the idea of serving and discovering one's calling within the church community, referencing **Ephesians 4:11-12**. All believers are encouraged to make themselves available, serve, and minister as part of their calling as His disciples. The message emphasized the importance of serving others and using one's gifts to build up the Kingdom. We were challenged to reflect on our calling and get involved in various areas of service within the church.

KEY VERSES

2 Timothy 2:2, *"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others."*

Proverbs 24:16, *"The godly may trip seven times, but they will get up again. But one disaster is enough to overthrow the wicked."*

Ephesians 4:11-12, *"So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up."*

Ephesians 4:16, "He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1 In the message, Pastor emphasizes the importance of availability, quoting **2 Timothy 2:2**, stating that it's about being open and willing to be used by God.

a. Can you think of a time when you made yourself available to serve others, even when it was challenging or outside your comfort zone?

2 The sermon points out that Jesus himself came not to be served but to serve, and it discusses the incident in **Mark 9:33-35** where Jesus teaches that true greatness comes from serving.

a. Why does the Scriptures emphasize the importance of serving others rather than seeking to be served??

b. How can you incorporate this attitude of servanthood into your relationships with family, friends, and others in your community?

3 **Ephesians 4:11-12** mentions roles given by Jesus to help equip the believers.

a. According to **Ephesians 4:11-12**, what are the different roles Jesus has given in the church to equip the saints for the work of ministry?

b. What role do you think you might be called to play within your local church to further the work of ministry?

4 Read **2 Corinthians 3:5-6**.

a. In what practical ways can you be a minister of the gospel to those around you in your daily life?

5 We were encouraged to get involved in ministries like leading small groups, participating in women's ministry, or working in children's ministry to explore our gifts and callings.

- a. How can being involved in various areas of service within the church, help us discover our callings?
- b. What is one area of ministry you feel led to explore or get more involved in? How can you take actionable steps toward that calling?

DIVE DEEPER

Reflection: Take a deep breath and read...

Ephesians 4:16 speaks to how we are bound together not only for the spiritual growth of the body of Christ but also for us growing into being full of love. We may think that it takes a special, more equipped person to love the unlovable and to serve them well but we must remember that in our weakness He is strong.

1. Consider the unique gifts and abilities you possess. Are you using them to contribute to the growth and well-being of your community? If not, what steps can you take to start making a positive impact, so that the whole body can be healthy, growing, and full of love?
2. Now perhaps you do not believe you possess any unique gifts or abilities, please know that is a lie from the pit of hell. God has uniquely and purposefully made you on purpose and for purpose to help build His Kingdom, we the body of believers need you.

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME

- Ask God to help us be available and open to serve.
- Pray for the courage to use our gifts to serve others.
- Seek guidance to recognize and fulfill our calling in ministry.
- Request strength to grow together as a unified body of Christ.

NOTES



WEEK 5: SERVING THE NEEDY

ICE BREAKER

WORSHIP

PRAYER

SERMON REWIND

Part 5: "Serving the Needy" emphasizes caring for those in need, highlighting Jesus' teachings on serving the needy. Pastor stresses the importance of aligning faith with action and loving God by serving people, drawing from Biblical passages including **Matthew 25** and **Mark 12**. He cites Old Testament instructions on caring for the poor, emphasizing that these principles are relevant today. Testimonies and examples are shared, showing the blessings that come from caring for the needy and serving as Jesus did. We were encouraged to embrace a heart for the needy, reminding them of their responsibility to care for the less fortunate.

KEY VERSES

Matthew 25:35-36, "For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me."

Mark 12:30-31, "And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.' The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' No other commandment is greater than these."

James 2:14-17, "What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, and you say, 'Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well' —but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless."

Isaiah 58:6-7, "No, this is the kind of fasting I want: Free those who are wrongly imprisoned; lighten the burden of those who work for you. Let the oppressed go free, and remove the chains that bind people. Share your food with the hungry, and give shelter to the homeless. Give clothes to those who need them, and do not hide from relatives who need your help."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1 Pastor explained the two sides of faith, loving God and serving people, and cited **Mark 12:29-31** where Jesus emphasizes the greatest commandments.

- a. How does caring for the needy reflect our love for God and for our neighbors?
- b. What are some practical ways to show love to your neighbors?

2 The message referenced **James 2:14-17**, which emphasizes the importance of faith being accompanied by actions and good deeds. Remember, good deeds don't save us, however, good works can be outward evidence of a transformed life.

- a. What are some ways you can put your faith into action?
- b. In what ways do good deeds transform us?

3 **Amos 2:6-7** and **Isaiah 58:6**, discuss the consequences of not caring for the poor and the blessings that come from helping them.

- a. How does serving the needy lead to healing and a fulfilling life?
- b. What is one thing you can do to serve those in need in your community?

4 Pastor urged us to align our hearts with Jesus', who cared for the poor and hurting, stating that neglecting the needy breaks God's heart.

- a. How does God's negative view of neglecting the needy reflect who He is?
- b. What steps can you take to become more sensitive to the needs of the poor and hurting around you?

5 Pastor concluded by quoting **1 John 3:17**, which encourages believers not to close their hearts to those in need.

- a. How can we ensure that we do not close our hearts to those in need?
- b. What internal and external barriers might you need to overcome in order to be more open to serving and caring for the needy?

DIVE DEEPER

Reflection: Take a deep breath and read...

Pastor has mentioned that faith can be spelled as R-I-S-K. Sometimes, God will push us out of our comfort zones because He wants to help us grow and rely on Him.

1. How have your past experiences and attitudes influenced the way you help or don't help those in need, and what changes can you make to better demonstrate Christ's love and compassion?
2. Is available time a barrier to serving the needy? What are God's promises to those who serve?

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME

- Ask for prayer requests first.
- Pray for guidance in identifying the needs in our community.
- Ask God to help us serve others with a compassionate heart and invite the Holy Spirit into ministry with you.
- Pray for strength, wisdom and having eyes for opportunities to help those in need.



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