




Message by Pastor Jeff 9-25-16
Message Based Questions to help your personal Study & LifeGroup Discussions

CONNECTING:

Connecting to one another (Group Activity): (spend 30 seconds to several minutes on an “ice breaker”)

This is meant to “break the ice” and to encourage your group members to share their thought and ideas in order to get to know one another a little better. It can be worship, serious, funny, light hearted or deep, etc...

What's your favorite thing to cook? Why?

 **EXPLORING IT:** (Inward Focus)(spend the next 15 to 45 minutes drawing your thought's or your group's attention to the word of God through briefly reviewing the Sermon or by opening with the main passage from the Message)

To Listen to Message (CTRL + Click the Link)

<http://www.northlakeonline.org/messages/index.html>

The Wow! What is the Mission of the Church? Northlake exists to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

The How! What are our Core Values? The following are the guiding principles that dictate—or drive—all our behavior and action as a Church.

1. **Biblically Centered**—2 Timothy 3:16-17
2. **Relationship with God**—John 15:4-5; 17:20-23
3. **Authentic Community**—Acts 2:42-47; Hebrews 10:24-25; Romans 12:10
Life Groups- exist to connect people in Biblical Community so that no one stands alone
4. **Meaningful Service—Encourage and Equip our People**—Ro. 12:6-8; 1 Cor. 12:4; Eph. 2:10
5. **Engaging Experiences—Call to action**—1 Cor. 9:19-23
6. **Missional Living—Carry out the Great Commission** Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; @ Cor. 5:20

The Now! Our Life Investment

Would you say that serving others is something that you try to do on a daily basis, or is it something you don't think too much about?

Has anyone made an impact on your life by serving you?

The Bible talks a lot about how we should strive to be more like Jesus. If that's our goal, how does serving fit into that?

What's the hardest part about serving others for you?

Do you think it's actually possible to serve others in the same way that you would serve Jesus?

What's one difference between the way you serve in your life now and the way you would serve if Jesus asked you to do something?

When Jesus washed the feet of His disciples, He reminded us that no one is greater than anyone else. Does that inspire you to serve others that you maybe would not have thought to serve before?

The act of serving that Jesus did as He washed the feet of His Disciples was one of the last things He did before He died. Does that make it seem more important to you?

How can you serve wholeheartedly in your current daily life? At Church? In Missions?

Do you think it would make a difference if everyone served each other in the same way they would serve Jesus? What are some things that you think would change?

How can we pray for you this coming week?



PRAY IT: (Outward Focus) Now that you and your group members have connected and grew together it is important to remember that Jesus came to Serve and to not be served and when he connects with a believer or a group of believers, those believers will grow and then Jesus will be able to use them to fulfill the Great Commission ... THROUGH US! Our hope is that You and your LifeGroup members will turn the funnels from facing inwardly to pointing the funnels outwardly in order to serve and pour ministry into others.

What Does It Mean to Serve God? By John Piper

“As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord” ([Joshua 24:15](#)). What does that mean?

- It means to do what he says in a way that makes him look supremely valuable in himself.
- It means to submit to him in a way that makes him look thrilling.

There are ways to submit to God that only make him look threatening, not thrilling. There are ways to do what he says that only call attention to the fact that he is an authority, not a treasure.

That kind of service is not the service God commands.

What’s the difference?

The difference is that God has told us not to serve him *as though he needed anything*.

“Nor is he served by human hands, *as though he needed anything*, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything” ([Acts 17:25](#)).

“The Son of Man came *not to be served* but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” ([Mark 10:45](#)).

Both these texts put all the emphasis on God’s giving to us when we serve.

So the kind of service that makes God look valuable and thrilling is the kind that serves God by constantly receiving from God. The key text to describe this is [1 Peter 4:11](#) —

“Whoever serves, [let it be] as one who serves *by the strength that God supplies* — in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.”

God is seen as glorious when all our serving is moment-by-moment receiving from God’s supply.

We receive this supply *by faith*. That is, we trust moment by moment that what we need, in serving him, he will supply (“life, breath, and everything”). This is the opposite of being anxious. Such serving is happy. And it makes God look no less authoritative, but infinitely more desirable. This is the glory he means to have. The giver gets the glory.

Therefore, “serve the Lord with gladness” ([Psalm 100:2](#)).

Keep Pressing On!

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