## Week 2 - Discussion Guide



- TRUTH
  We are called to submit to one another out of
- GRACE
  Selfless people are actually happier people.

reverance for Christ.

- T TRUTH

  We should do nothing out of selfish ambition.
- Asking how we can help others, doesn't take from us, it increases our humility and improves our relationships.

#### **INSTRUCTION SUMMARY**

**GRACE** 

- 1. Submit to one another. (Eph. 5:21)
- 2. Do nothing for yourself, but think of others as of more or equal value (Phil. 2:3-4)

#### **ABOUT THIS SERIES**

Jesus does not condemn people when they fail, but he did bring with him higher standards of living. With this higher standard comes a deeper grace. The Christian life is one that is built upon an ideal plan God had for our everyday life. The tension of grace and truth is most often felt in the family.



**FOCUS VERSE: 1 Peter 3:7** 

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### **READ EXAMPLES TOGETHER**

### Read a bit further in the text Pastor Kyle taught from: Phil. 2:5-7

- 1. What do you think the author means when he says we are able to think of others as more important than ourselves because we have the mind of Christ? (v. 5)
- 2. How would you describe what the mind of Christ is like? (Read Rom. 15:3 and Matt. 11:29 for clues.)
- 3. Why do you think Jesus didn't consider himself equal with God if he was God? (v. 6) (Consider Rom. 15:3 as you discuss.)
- 4. Jesus didn't avoid the mess of humankind even though he was God. (v. 7) He waded right in to help. Where do you pitch in and help others even if it doesn't benefit you?
- 5. Does helping in that way bring you joy or does it drain you?

#### Read Isaiah 42:1 and 61:1.

- 1. Isaiah 42:1 is just one of many predictions of the life of Jesus in the Old Testament. What are three ways the prophet Isaiah describes who Jesus?
- 2. In Isaiah 61:1 what are a few of the things Jesus is predicted to do?

Jesus' example in word and deed gives us very specific ways we are called to help those around us. Following Jesus isn't helping others to help ourselves, but to help like he did.

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Identifying our fears is one of the greatest things we can to in order to actually get the kind of life God wants for us and we actually want for ourselves.

- What is something you are afraid of?
- What has that fear kept you from?
- In your relationships with family or those closest to you, how does this fear show up?
- Romans 5:6 says that while we were still helpless God died for us. Identifying fear is admitting our need for God's help.

### JESUS IS OUR GREAT EXAMPLE

Read the following verse below:

For he was crucified in weakness, but lives by the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but in dealing with you we will live with him by the power of God. (2 Co. 13:4)

- When you read about the "power of God" what do you think that means?
- Why is weakness necessary to receive God's power?
- The word "weakness" means to lack strength or even be ill. Do you avoid admitting weakness or do you tend to only recognize where you aren't strong enough?
- Have you ever asked God to reveal what his power through you looks like?

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1. IT REFLECTS THE HEARTOF GOD.

Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. (Rom. 12:10.)

2. IT PLEASES GOD WHEN WE HELP OTHERS.

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. (Heb. 13:16.)

3. GOD LOVED US WHEN WE DIDN'T DESRVE IT.

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (Rom. 5:8.)