

THIS IS US

OUR MISSION, VISION, & VALUES

Discussion Guide | Week 8: Joyful Service | March 22, 2020

OVERVIEW We've been digging into our mission, vision & values as a church. This week's value is **JOYFUL SERVICE**. In this value, we're saying that we'll be a church that serves with a reckless generosity that only makes sense in light of the generosity of God's grace.

KEY VERSES 1 John 2:28, Ephesians 2:8-10, Philippians 2:12-13, Psalm 90:12, Ephesians 5:15-17, 1 Peter 4:10-11, 1 Corinthians 16:1-2, Hebrews 7:1-2

WE WILL SERVE OTHERS WITH OUR TIME,
TALENTS, AND TREASURES. WE WILL LEAD
THE WAY WITH A RECKLESS GENEROSITY
THAT ONLY MAKES SENSE IN LIGHT OF THE
GENEROSITY OF GOD'S GRACE.

VALUE: JOYFUL SERVICE

REMEMBER When we talk about our local community, do you think reckless generosity is a natural thing for folks? Why? Share some examples of times when you've seen people live that way.

REFLECT Now that we've gotten past the initial shock of changing circumstances due to the COVID-19 crisis, are you seeing signs (maybe subtle hints from the Holy Spirit) about how to live generously even when everything is uncertain? Share.

RESPOND Pastor Brandon reminded us not to look around for our affirmation & value. Instead, we should be looking up to God for it. Brandon described the child who serves because that's what family members do & the child who serves in order to be able to stay in the family. Which child can be genuinely joyful? Have you been both? Which are you now? Explain.

REAL LIFE Brandon mentioned the "elephant in the room" that we can't ignore. These unique times are a test for the Church. As family members, we each must decide between 2 options...

OPTION A = Give generously & "recklessly" in a way that only makes sense in light of God's generosity found in the gospel, in order to honor him.

OPTION B = Grip tightly to (fill-in-the-blank) and withdraw from God & our community.

This week, what choice will you make? Will you go with **OPTION A**, trusting Jesus to help you give recklessly to honor him? If so, what's that look like? If you need to confess going with **OPTION B**, what's been filling in the blank for you? Discuss where you're at with this together as a group.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>>

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PRAYER TIME Brandon shared that serving & giving away in the name of Jesus produces joy. Spend time praying for one another that the Holy Spirit will produce joy in your lives this week. Ask Jesus to provide routine ways to serve genuinely. Pray that God will open doors for you to give & serve spontaneously. Ask for the boldness to give & serve “recklessly” in a way that shines the light of Jesus into the darkness our community is experiencing right now.

NOTES

Big Points

- We’re called to steward 3 things: Our Time, Our Talents, Our Treasures
- Serving is giving away.
- Giving away in the name of Jesus produces joy.

Our Challenges for this Week

- Plan ahead & look for routine ways you can serve generously.
- Look for opportunities to spontaneously serve generously.
- It should look reckless. Being recklessly generous is part of being the light of the world!

MERCY = Not giving you what you deserve

GRACE = Giving you the opposite of what you deserve

QUOTES

“We cannot be the church and be all about self-preservation. We weren’t given to hoard, but to give away.”

“Instead of comparing horizontally, we need to compare vertically!”

“Pride is a symptom of insecurity.”