



## Serve Team Sunday: Why We Serve Pastor Joseph Zwanziger 09.08.2024

### USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

### [John 13:1, 4-9, 12-17, NLT]

<sup>1</sup> "Before the Passover celebration, Jesus knew that his hour had come to leave this world and return to his Father. He had loved his disciples during his ministry on earth, and now he loved them to the very end.

<sup>4</sup> So he got up from the table, took off his robe, wrapped a towel around his waist, <sup>5</sup> and poured water into a basin. Then he began to wash the disciples' feet, drying them with the towel he had around him..." <sup>6</sup> "When Jesus came to Simon Peter, Peter said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' <sup>7</sup> Jesus replied, '**You don't understand now what I am doing, but someday you will.**' <sup>8</sup> 'No,' Peter protested, 'you will never ever wash my feet!' Jesus replied, '**Unless I wash you, you won't belong to me.**' <sup>9</sup> Simon Peter exclaimed, 'Then wash my hands and head as well, Lord, not just my feet!'

<sup>12</sup> "After washing their feet, he put on his robe again and sat down and asked, '**Do you understand what I was doing?**' <sup>13</sup> **You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and you are right, because that's what I am.** <sup>14</sup> **And since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other's feet.** <sup>15</sup> **I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you.** <sup>16</sup> **I tell you the truth, slaves are not greater than their**

master. Nor is the messenger more important than the one who sends the message. <sup>17</sup> Now that you know these things, God will bless you for doing them."

## **1) Your Life is Limited Unless You're Serving.**

**[John 13:13-15, ESV]**

<sup>13</sup> "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and you are right, because that's what I am.<sup>14</sup> And since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other's feet. <sup>15</sup> I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you."

**[John 13:15, NLT]**

"I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you."

**[John 15:14, ESV]**

"You are my friends if you do what I command you."

**[1 John 2:6, ESV]**

"Whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked."

**[Luke 6:46, ESV]**

"Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you?"

## **2) We Serve Because Jesus Served us First.**

**[John 13:14, ESV]**

"And since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other's feet."

**[Romans 12:1, NIV]**

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper (reasonable) worship."

***"Remember what Jesus has done for you!  
Because of that, offer everything to God, as a reasonable act of service."***

### **3) Blessing Comes Through Serving.**

"Research shows that people who belong to a faith-based community and attend at least four times per month live four to fourteen years longer than people who don't. And research shows you'll amplify the longevity benefits of belonging to a faith community if you become active: join the choir, volunteer as a greeter, or commit to read for the congregation." – Dan Beuttner

**[John 13:17, ESV]**

"Now that you know these things, God will bless you for doing them."

**[John 13:15, 17, ESV]**

<sup>15</sup> "I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you... <sup>17</sup> Now that you know these things, God will bless you for doing them."

#### **Key Points:**

- 1) Your Life is Limited Unless You're Serving.
- 2) We Serve Because Jesus Served Us First.
- 3) Blessing Comes Through Serving.

#### **Applications for the Week:**

**Think about the various ministries mentioned in the sermon. Which one resonates with you the most, and how can you take a step to get involved this week? Click [HERE](#) to take your next step in joining the Serve Team.**

#### **Discussion Questions**

- 1. Reflect on a time when you felt limited in your spiritual journey. How might serving others help you move beyond those limitations?**
- 2. What significant act of service did Jesus perform in John 13, and why was it culturally significant?**
- 3. How does the act of Jesus washing the disciples' feet serve as a model for Christian service today?**

- 4. Jesus served His disciples by washing their feet, a task considered lowly and humiliating. What are some "lowly" tasks you can take on to serve others in your community?**
- 5. The sermon mentioned that serving can lead to unexpected blessings, such as lifelong friendships and divine relationships. Have you experienced any such blessings through serving? If not, how can you position yourself to experience them?**
- 6. How does Romans 12:1 describe the relationship between worship and service? What specific actions can you take this week to serve as an act of worship?**
- 7. In what ways does the sermon suggest that serving others can lead to personal blessings and fulfillment?**
- 8. The sermon highlighted that Jesus continues to serve us daily with His blessings and presence. How can you make serving others a natural response to the blessings you receive from Jesus?**
- 9. The sermon mentioned that secular research supports the idea that serving can lead to a longer, more fulfilling life. How does this information motivate you to serve more actively?**