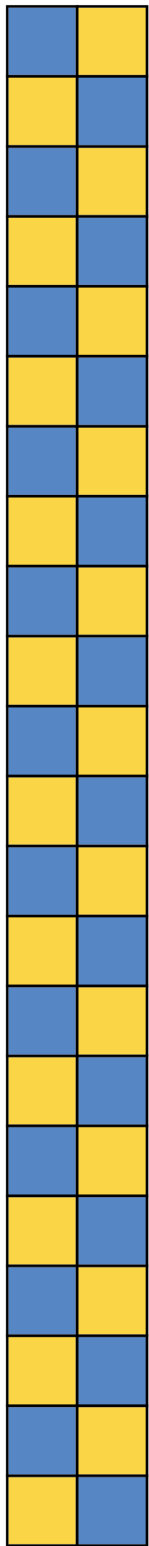


IT'S TIME FOR DIFFERENT



Conversation Guide

Pastor E. Paul Allen

Week 9 - It's Time to Serve

SERMON RECAP:

Serving others can often feel like a “have to” rather than a “get to.” It may feel more of a burden to check the box or a mandatory action to gain God’s approval. After all, many of us don’t understand why serving others is really necessary. On Sunday, Pastor Paul Allen invited us to look at serving others through a new lens.

Throughout the gospels, we see Jesus’ servant heart on display. He never passed up an opportunity to enter into someone’s story and treat them with grace, compassion, and dignity. He met spiritual and physical needs with His acts of service. One of the most powerful depictions of serving others is found in John 13. Before Jesus was betrayed by Judas, and ultimately crucified, Jesus got down on His knees and humbly washed the feet of His disciples. The Son of God was not demanding others serve Him (which would’ve made sense because of His power and holiness) but was insisting on serving others out of His love for them. He even washed the feet of Judas, knowing that Judas would betray Him.

Not only did Jesus display His love for the disciples, He also modeled what He expected His disciples to do for others. He was inviting us into His mission and service. It took a lot of humility for Jesus to wash the dirt from the feet of His disciples. It takes a lot of humility for us to “consider others more important than ourselves” by serving them (Philippians 2:3).

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Upward

- Read John 13:1-17. What stands out to you about Jesus’ perspective on serving others?
- Why do you think God cares if we serve each other?

Inward

- Do you view serving as a “get to” or as a “have to”? How might you shift your thinking to approach being a servant with more joy?
- Read Galatians 5:13-14. This definition of freedom is different than the world’s definition. Which definition of freedom do you live by? If you tend to gravitate towards the world’s definition, how might you combat this with God’s truth?

Outward

- When we meet our neighbor’s physical, emotional, and spiritual needs, we are showing them the love of God in a tangible way. Brainstorm ways you could serve others, both inside and outside of TC. What time, treasures, or talents might God be asking you to use for His glory?

SOUL TATTOO:

You were created to serve.

ACTION STEP:

Find your opportunities to serve, both at TC and in your everyday life.