

Serve on a Team Small Group Guide

Warm-up Question: (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part all together, depending upon the nature of your group.)

1. Do you struggle with procrastination? Explain.
2. Do you find it difficult to ask others for help? Explain.

Read the following passage: John 13:1-17.

Jesus' disciples were stunned when he got up from his place at the table, took off his outer clothing, wrapped a towel around his waist, and began washing their feet. In their cultural context, it was nearly unthinkable that Jesus, their "Lord" and "Teacher," would lower himself to such a degree. Jesus' intention is for us to follow his example in serving our brothers and sisters.

Questions for Discussion (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. Jesus thought of the disciples as his "own." See also John 10:11-16. How does thinking of the church or our brothers and sisters around us as "ours" make a difference in our mindset toward serving? When it comes to the local church, how would you rate your sense of affection toward, identification with, and responsibility for the people and mission? Explain.
2. How did serving and leadership come together in Jesus' life and mission? What does servant leadership look like in our cultural context?
3. How can emotional security and a healthy self-identity empower us to serve others?
4. Many of us feel that a lack of time is one of the greatest barriers to our ability to serve. How do we keep this obstacle from becoming a perpetual barrier to one of the key practices that Jesus has called us to?
5. How can serving well open the hearts of others to Jesus?
6. What are some strengths you can bring to the table in the context of serving? Explain.
7. Many people serve for a season and then burn out. What can we do to keep ourselves from falling into this ditch? How was Jesus able to serve thousands of people — even people who were immature, self-centered, or ungrateful — without burning out?
8. Are you currently serving on a team at Freedom Church? Explain.

9. What is one thing you can do to make serving at Freedom Church more fun, more fruitful, and more life-giving for yourself and others?

If you're ready to take the step of becoming a Sixer, you can do it here: bit.ly/fcsixer

Pray