

SHOW UP

A CALL TO EVERYDAY FAITHFULNESS

WEEK 4

Growth Group Opener:

Have you ever had a friend who was so completely different than you that people were surprised that you were friends? If so, how did that friendship come about?

Read: Matthew 25: 31-40

In v.32-33, who do you see as being the sheep, and who do you see as the goats?

What are some other ways you might look at who is who? (See Matthew 13:1-9; Matthew 7:21-23 for ideas.)

Dig Question: Flip through the gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John) and look at different people Jesus served. When did life change occur for them? Give examples.

What do you notice when you look at how Jesus served, and who He served?

Our society has a tendency to "other" people, which creates distance. What types of people or groups have been "othered" in the past? The present?

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Our society has a tendency to "other" people, which creates distance. What types of people or groups have been "othered" in the past? The present?

What type of person (or people group) do you find it most difficult to love and serve?

What might change in your perception if you saw those people through God's eyes?

Seeing as every single person on earth bears the image of God, how does v.40 shape how we should treat others?

What can we learn about God from this passage?

Is there anything you feel the Holy Spirit nudging you to look at more closely in your life?

What steps can you take this week to move toward someone you find it difficult to love and serve, instead of distancing yourself from them?

Prayer:

Father, you are so good, loving, and kind. It's your kindness that leads people to repentance, so forgive us when we don't lead with that same kindness. Give us humility, with an awareness of our own sin, when we look at people around us. Thank you for loving us in spite of ourselves. Shape us more and more into the image of Jesus so that we can love and serve like He did. In the name of Jesus, amen.

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