

Friendship Group Discussion Questions 3/26/2017 (2 pages)

It was before Passover, and Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and to return to the Father. He had always loved his followers in this world, and he loved them to the very end. ²Even before the evening meal started, the devil had made Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, decide to betray Jesus. ³Jesus knew that he had come from God and would go back to God. He also knew that the Father had given him complete power. ⁴So during the meal Jesus got up, removed his outer garment, and wrapped a towel around his waist. John 13:1-4 (Contemporary English Version)

Sermon Point #1– Surrender understands the mission. Jesus understands His true mission. It was to bring about redemption, not just set Himself up for success. His time had come. (v. 1)

Question #1 - How does your current definition of success square up with the definition of success according to Christ? How is your life purposed to share redemption with those around you?

Sermon Point #2 - Surrender more than likely will be misunderstood by others around you. (v.2)

Question #2 - Sometimes serving does not make sense to others. Share an experience where you were misunderstood initially but God worked it for His purpose. (Help those who share focus on what God is doing rather than pointing to just their service.)

Sermon Point #3 - Surrender involves knowing whose you are, where you come from and where you are going. He had come from the Father and was going back to the Father (v. 3)

Question #3 – Knowing who we are in Christ is foundational in surrender. Read Hebrews 10:14 and 2 Corinthians 5:17-18. How does knowing who we are in Christ, position us to surrender and serve? How have you experienced that in your own life?

Sermon Point #4 - Surrender acknowledges that God has given you power or authority to serve. (v.3)

Question #4 – This might be a tougher issue for some. Many times we try to operate out of our own power which leads us to some “safe” serves. How have you experienced God giving you strength beyond the strength you possess to serve others? What is a next step you need to take to move the dial from a “safe serve” to a deeper “surrender” serve?

Sermon Point #5 - Surrender frees us to wave the white flag and to get up and serve. (v.4)

Question #5 Sunday’s sermon included that surrender is the starting point rather than the apex of service. How has that resonated with you? It is not super Christians that Christ desires, but surrendered. He set the example throughout Scripture but clearly in John 13. How will this change the way you look at serving?

Prayer Focus

With surrender being the starting point rather than the apex of our service, spend time leading those in the group to examine their own lives. Over the past few weeks we have explored worship, fear and surrender and God has been working in our hearts and minds. Guide the prayer time to focus on the greatness of God and how our identity is established in Him. Lead the prayer time to focus on those things in our lives that might be things we are worshipping other than God and to confess those to Him. Finally, lead the prayer time to focus on asking God one thing that He has clearly shown us to be obedient to Him and commit to take that next step in our journey.