

6:8 ASSIGNMENT: Walk Humbly

Pastor Derek Sanford December 6, 2020

Life Group Discussion

Encouragement:

Share about an experience where you realized that you chose to humble yourself because you respected the authority of someone else. What about them encouraged you to remain humble? What did that humility look like?

Scripture:

Read Psalm 51.

- 1- How does this Psalm acknowledge God's character? How does it acknowledge our dependence on the Lord?
- 2- Have you ever felt this strong of a reaction to your sin? If so, how did the Lord use that to help you grow?

Read Philippians 2:3-11.

- 3- How is Jesus the example of humility Paul points to? Why did Jesus humble himself?
- 4- What does it look like in your daily life to look to the interests of others instead of yourself?

Prayer:

Take a few minutes for personal confession using Psalm 51 as your guide. Have 1-2 people pray for wisdom about where God is leading each person to "do justice, show mercy, and walk humbly" with the Lord.

Next Steps:

Ask God, "What's my assignment?" (2 Chron 16:9). If you are comfortable, share where God is leading you.

Serve Together!

As part of the Transform 1:8 BIG GIVE this December, we are asking our LifeGroups to consider supporting one or more foster children through the Bair Foundation by purchasing giftcards or shopping for gifts from the child's wishlist. Sign up at <u>www.whoisgrace.com/bair</u>. The DEADLINE FOR GIFTS IS DECEMBER 14.

We are also collecting coats/hats/gloves for Climate Changers as well as diapers for Diaper Depot. Find out more by going to <u>www.hopefor2021.com</u>.



6:8 ASSIGNMENT: Love Mercy Pastor Derek Sanford December 13, 2020

Life Group Discussion

Encouragement:

Share how God or another person has shown mercy to you when you didn't deserve it. How does remembering this encourage you to show mercy to others?

Scripture:

Read Matthew 18:23-35.

- 1- When you read this story, do you identify with any of the characters? Which one or ones?
- 2- Why do you think the servant who was forgiven much did not show mercy to the one who owed him little?
- 3- How do you explain the master's treatment of the unforgiving servant who did not show mercy?
- 4- How does a lack of mercy for others reveal we may not understand God's forgiveness for us?
- 5- What can we do when we have difficulty showing mercy, especially when we feel they don't deserve it?

Prayer:

Have someone read <u>Psalm 103:8-14</u>. Thank God for his amazing grace and mercy to us and ask him to help us understand and receive that mercy better so we can show it to those around us.

Next Steps:

Individually or as a group commit to at least one way you will show mercy this week to someone in need. It might be sacrificing some luxury or pleasure so you can purchase new coats for Climate Changers or diapers for the Diaper Depot. Visit <u>www.hopefor2021.com</u> for details.



6:8 ASSIGNMENT: Act Justly Pastor Derek Sanford December 20, 2020

Life Group Discussion

Encouragement:

This year more than ever, we are in need of some hope. It has been a long and challenging year. Share with your group how you have found hope this advent season. Ask others in your group to share as well. Make sure to make space for those who might not be feeling hope and offer them prayers and encouragement.

Scripture:

Matthew 5:17 and 7:12-14

- 1- These passages are part of Jesus's Sermon on the Mount. What is significant about these passages in terms of Jesus establishing himself as the Son of God? What does he say he has come to do?
- 2- What is Jesus asking us to do? How easy/hard is it to live by the "golden rule"?
- 3- How does the "golden rule" lead us to God's heart for justice and mercy?
- 4- How have you experienced God's mercy and love when you didn't deserve it? How does that change your posture toward other people?

Prayer:

Read this prayer from Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Common Radicals:

"Lord, we pray for strength and trust in times of trouble. Equip us to be your hands and feet in the world. May we bring good news to all we meet this day, with our words and with our lives. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen"

Next Steps: Over the next week, look for ways to authentically be the hands and feet of Jesus to those around you. Check out <u>www.hopefor2021.com</u> for ways to celebrate and serve.