Small Groups 1/19 – 1/26
Live the lifestyle of a servant

Talk about Serve The City last week. What did you do? Did you participate? What did you learn? Maybe you have served in the past, what impact did it make in your life?

This week we talked about the lifestyle of a servant as defined by Jesus. How is Jesus' definition different from the worlds?

Read Matthew 20:20-28 and Mark 10:35-45 again and answer the following questions:

- If discipleship or serving is defined by how high you get up the "ladder", not many will be great. But if greatness is defined by moving down the ladder and serving others, everyone can be great! Why don't we believe that and live like that?

- How are you pursuing "servanthood" today? How do you know? How does God want you to live out this teaching in your life going forward?

- List names and places of people you can serve and then think through how you could do that?

- Jesus doesn't just give us the right answer; He gives us the motivation to serve, to be great. Think through verse 28 and talk about the power of Christ's death that frees us not only from the penalty of sin, but it's power; freeing us to serve God and others. Do you live with that kind of freedom?

- How did Jesus explain his mission in v. 45, and what was he trying to teach his disciples?

Read Phil. 2:5-8. read this passage to look at it again in the context of servanthood.

- What attitude are we to have toward serving others? How did Jesus model it?

- How do you feel as you think about what Jesus did to serve you?

Read John 13:1-17.

- What lesson was Jesus modeling through his actions?

- Who is most difficult for you to serve? Perhaps, you struggle with serving those who don't deserve it, or those who have ignored you, or those who are ungrateful and selfish. Maybe someone has hurt you and so you don't want to serve that person. In this John passage Jesus served the very man whom he knew would betray him within hours. What does that say to you personally about serving that person in your life?

Action Step: Ask God to show you one way to serve another person this week, particularly someone who is hard to love. Write down what he shows you and what you do about it.