

Men's and Women's Bible Studies

*September 6 begins Women's and Men's Bible studies.
Childcare is available for both. Get signed up today!*



The Heart of Sacrifice

Special Message - Pastor Jim | Mark 10:32-41

God has called His people, the transformed ones, to love and serve others; not out of obligation or coercion, but out of a heart of love and service. In short, God calls us to be a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1-5).

Romans 12:1 says, "I beseech you by the mercies of God..." In other words, it is saying, I beg you, in light of the mercies of God. His mercy has been poured out in and for us. So much so, that we must have a meaningful response to this lavish love. It should change the way we respond to Him, and the way we live.

Leaders: Take your group through each section: **Pray, Reflect, and Reach.** Keep in mind the time allowances. In the **Reflect** section, feel free to focus on several of these questions instead of all as time allows.



PRAY (10 min)

Pray together as a group for the Holy Spirit to lead you and teach you as you study together.



REFLECT (25 min)

As you've had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through the lesson this week, consider these questions as a group and discuss them.

1. Read Mark 10:32-41. Discuss the disciples' response to Christ's revelation that He will suffer and die for the sins of the world.

What is their response and what does it reveal about humanity?

What should have been the way they responded?

What does that make you think about your own tendencies?

2. The Mindset of Christ - Philippians 2:5-13

Most relationship issues (with family, coworkers, neighbors, etc.,) center around selfish ambitions and desires. But as this passage highlights, the relational issues are often resolved when our mindset shifts from self to sacrifice. When we prioritize serving others, it's amazing how much less complicated our relationships become.

In V. 5 Paul tells us that we should have the same mindset as Christ Himself.

As you read the remaining verses in this passage, list out the aspects of Jesus' heart that are emphasized here. How do these attributes of Jesus demonstrate self-sacrifice?

3. Choose one of the following quotes to discuss. What do you think it means, and do you agree or disagree?

"Sacrifice alone, bare and unrelieved, is ghastly, unnatural, and dead; but self-sacrifice, illuminated by love, is warmth and life; it is the death of Christ, the life of God, and the blessedness and only proper life of man."

Frederick W. Robertson

"The Christian faith is meant to be lived moment by moment. It isn't some broad, general outline--it's a long walk with a real Person. Details count: passing thoughts, small sacrifices, a few encouraging words, little acts of kindness, brief victories over nagging sins."

Joni Eareckson Tada

4. Pastor Jim talked about some warning signs with sacrifice when it becomes derailed.

Discuss this idea and how to stay healthy and keep your heart right in service to God



WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSE

John 10:10

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.



REACH (5 min)

1. **Meditate on God's desire for you to live your life sacrificially.**

Reflect on God's desire to lead you to abundant life through surrender and sacrifice.

"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself?"

Luke 9:23-25

2. **What do you need to surrender to the Father?**

What dream, idea, person, or possession is robbing you of the abundant life God intends for you. Where do you need to live sacrificially to experience more of Jesus? Surrender whatever stands in the way of you and the abundant life God has for you.

"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him."

1 John 2:15

3. **Choose to live sacrificially this week.**

Ask the Holy Spirit to make the will of the Father known to you as he did for Jesus, and commit to following whatever he is asking you to do.