



Rock Bridge Small Group Discussion Guide Compassion Weekend PARTICIPANT GUIDE

ICE BREAKER (Optional):

- What's the most shocking place you have ever visited, as far as being different from home?

MAIN POINT:

- *God calls us to greatness, a greatness of sacrifice and service motivated by the love of God.*

INTO THE WORD:

Before reading this passage as a group, consider the following **Core Questions**. Read these questions aloud to frame up your discussion.

1. What does this passage reveal about what God is like? I.e. Obvious statements, attributes of His character, ability, etc.
2. What are some key words or phrases and how do they help us understand what is being said?
3. Is there some kind of action that we are called to? A sin to confess? Something to thank God for? Someone I need to pray for or encourage? A behavior I need to change?

Passage Summary: *In Philippians 2, Paul challenges us to model our attitudes toward others after Jesus attitude toward us. In 2 Corinthians, Paul sought to motivate the Corinthians to give to the poor. His motivation is not based on his authority as an apostle but rather on the transformation created by the Gospel.*

Passage(s) to Read: Philippians 2:3-11 & 2 Corinthians 8:1-9

DISCUSSION:

1. Discuss your thoughts from the core questions listed above. Specifically, what do these passages say about God's heart?
2. As a group, talk about what greatness is as defined by these passages.
3. In verses 4-5 of 2 Corinthians, what do you think it means that they went beyond Paul's expectations? What does it mean that they gave themselves to God, and then to Paul and the other leaders?
4. Based on these passages, spend some time talking about why we should be grateful for what Jesus has done for us. Reflect on what He gave up coming to earth to save us.

APPLICATION:

1. List some practical ways that God's definition of greatness could be lived out today in our lives.
2. Why is it hard for us to see giving to others as a privilege? What causes us to not see helping others that way?

STEPS OF OBEDIENCE

- If possible, break into groups of 2-3. Commit to one step of sacrifice that you can make this week and tell someone about it. Commit to praying for one another to take that step and follow up on it at your next meeting.

PRAYER TIME

- In your groups of 2-3, pray for one another specifically for a deeper love for God and a deeper willingness to live for others.
- If anyone in the group has a special prayer request, make sure that is shared with the group.