

Connect Group Conversation Questions

Week of February 4th, 2024

MAIN IDEA

In Pastor Steve's message this past Sunday, he shared the profound truth of Jesus Christ's humility and self-emptying love, drawing from Philippians 2. Highlighting the essence of discipleship and the significance of considering others above ourselves, Pastor Steve reminded us of our calling to mirror Christ's humility. He emphasized that Jesus, being fully God and fully man, chose not to cling to His divine privileges but instead emptied Himself for our sake. This message challenges us to reflect on our attitudes towards privilege and encourages us to live out the humility of Christ in our daily lives.

Leader Tip: In reflecting on Pastor Steve's sermon about Christ's humility, encourage your group to pursue one-to-one discipleship, emphasizing how this mirrors Jesus' way of deeply knowing others. Highlight that through such relationships, we can practice the humility and self-emptying love Jesus exemplified, fostering personal and spiritual growth in a way that truly embodies the message's core teachings.

TALK IT OUT

- 1. Reflecting on Humility:** Pastor Steve talked about Jesus' humility and His decision to empty Himself of privilege for our sake (Philippians 2:1-8). How does this perspective of Jesus challenge your understanding of power and privilege in your own life?
- 2. Living Out Humility:** Considering others better than ourselves is a key takeaway from the message (Philippians 2:3-4). Can you share a time when you found it difficult to put someone else's needs above your own? How can you apply Jesus' example of humility in that situation?
- 3. Impact of Self-Emptying Love:** Pastor Steve highlighted that Jesus did not empty Himself of power but of privilege. How does this distinction influence the way you view your own resources and privileges?
- 4. Encouragement in Community:** Hebrews 10:24-25 encourages us not to give up meeting together but to encourage one another. How can we, as Connect Group members, practice encouraging and spurring one another towards love and good deeds, especially in the light of Pastor Steve's message?

Students/Young Adults

1. **Understanding Jesus' Humility:** How does knowing that Jesus, though fully God, chose to live humbly among us (Philippians 2:5-8) impact your view of leadership and greatness?
2. **Real-Life Application:** Can you think of a situation in school or with friends where you can practice putting others first, as Jesus did?
3. **Challenges to Humility:** Discuss a time when it was hard for you to be humble. How can Jesus' example help you in similar situations in the future?
4. **The Role of Encouragement:** Share ways you can encourage your peers, especially those who might feel overlooked or undervalued, reflecting Hebrews 10:24-25.

Parents of School-Aged Children

1. **Modeling Humility:** How can we model Jesus' humility in our family life, especially in how we treat each other and those in our community?
2. **Teaching Moments:** What are some practical ways we can teach our children about the importance of considering others above themselves, inspired by Philippians 2:3-4?
3. **Privilege and Service:** Pastor Steve spoke about emptying ourselves of privilege. How can we involve our children in acts of service that teach this principle?
4. **Family Encouragement:** How can our family encourage one another and other families in our community to live out the humility of Christ?

Optional Discussion Topics

- **The Nature of Christ:** Fully God and fully man, and the implications for our faith (Philippians 2:6-8).
- **Humility in Action:** Practical ways to live out humility in today's world.
- **Spiritual Poverty vs. Physical Poverty:** Reflecting on our spiritual needs and how we can meet the spiritual needs of others around us.
- **Emptying of Privilege:** Discuss the concept of privilege in the context of our faith and how we can use our privileges to serve others in the spirit of Christ.