

# LBM Small Group Materials



Just Jump In! – Week Three: October 16th

## For Small Group Leaders

Dear Leaders,

*Serving, as we are learning, is not an option. A life of sacrificial service is a life of spiritual worship. This is what you do as a home group or small group leader. The sacrifices you make as a leader is a spiritual act of worship, pleasing to God. This week is a great time to help your group make the connection that serving is one of the primary ways we jump in and taste the goodness of the Lord. In your group, you likely have a variety of people. For those heavily involved in ministry, this is an opportunity to encourage them in their service. For those who have never given much thought to serving, it may be a great time to allow the Spirit to guide them in ways of involvement. Before your group meets, take some time to pray for God's guidance, asking him to work uniquely in each group member's heart. Jump in and have fun!*

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### Discussion Starters:

- Ask each person who is willing, to share something from their Spiritual Life Notebook regarding what God is teaching them. It may be something from Glen's sermons or something from their daily reading, but give each person a chance to share. Even if some don't yet have a notebook, have them share something that they are learning. If this opener seems too intimidating for your group have them instead turn to one other person and share what they are learning.
- Ask your group what they think of when the words "serve," "servant" or "service" come to mind. If they haven't already done so, ask them to come up with examples from outside the church.
- If you really want to be creative, dress up as a waiter (black and white or similar attire), complete with towel over your arm. As group members arrive, greet them and attend to their needs, etc. Have fun with it!

### Discussion Questions:

1. Have someone read Matthew 25:14-30 out loud.
2. What stood out to you about this story from Jesus?  
**Leaders Note:** Don't be afraid to let someone express the thought that the master acted harshly.
3. What does Jesus mean by "talents" in this story? What does it mean to invest our talents so that they have a return?
4. Read Romans 12:1-16. What does this passage (especially verse 5), say about our relationship and responsibility toward one another?
5. In Romans 12 Paul ties **worship** together with **service**. How are the two related? Why is service an act of worship?
6. Share about a recent time when someone blessed you through their service, or you were blessed by serving someone else.
7. Share about a time in your life when you felt particularly challenged to step up and serve. What God-given talent(s) did you use and what impact did it have on you?

**Group Reflection** – Ask group members to share together what areas of ministry they are presently involved in or have considered getting involved in. This is a time for group members to share desires and dreams about present and future ministry. (Break into smaller groups of 2-4 if necessary to encourage sharing.)

**Putting LBM into Practice** – Close your time together by praying as a group for each other. This is a time to pray for blessing upon the efforts of those who are involved in ongoing ministries and for opening the way for those who are not yet involved.

**Leaders Note** – If any group members have expressed a desire to get involved in ministry, encourage them to jump right in and try a first serve from the ministry directory. As a group, support their efforts to get involved and follow up in the weeks to come by giving them an opportunity to share how their new ministry is developing.