

LBM Small Group Materials



The Power of Doing Good – Week Four: October 23rd

For Small Group Leaders

Dear Leaders,

It's our final week in the LBM campaign. I hope your group has had some wonderful discussions about what it means to serve Christ. It is the great privilege of our lives. It matters deeply to God. Let's continue to pray that God will use this time in a mighty way in all our lives.

The plan after Living Beyond Myself is to continue to provide small group materials on a weekly basis. They will work in tandem with the Sunday sermons and the Scrolls. As they have been, you can find them online at www.fbcdavis.org and I will continue to email them to you each week. If you are not on my email list and you would like to receive these materials each week, contact me at swieking@fbcdavis.org. Have a great time learning!

Scott

Discussion Starters (choose one or both or make up your own):

- 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.
- What historical figures come to mind when you think of the word "greatness?" (**Leaders Note:** Encourage group members to think of people both in and outside the church.)

Discussion Questions:

1. Have someone read Matthew 20:20-28 out loud.
2. What stands out to you about this story involving Jesus and his disciples?
3. What does Jesus say about greatness? Can you think of someone who the world would not consider "great" but who is great in God's Kingdom?
4. Read Ephesians 2:8-10. Look closely at verse 10. The Greek word translated "workmanship" (NIV) refers to a work of art. What does it mean that we are God's work of art?
5. We were made for a specific purpose. Imagine that you are a college basketball coach and one day you saw Michael Jordan displaying his skills in a street game of basketball. How would you feel if you asked him to play basketball for you at North Carolina State and he said, "I'm not going to college – I'm going to work at the corner video store instead?" Or imagine that you were an artist and loved to make beautiful pottery. One day you gave your prized piece, a vase, to a friend. Days later, upon visiting her house, how would you feel if you saw that your prized vase was being used as a doorstop? How do you think God feels when we, his creatures, turn our backs on what he created us for?
6. Have your group break up into pairs or trios. Ask each person to share about a time that God blessed them, either through another person serving them or in their own acts of service.

Group Reflection – Ask group members to share together what they have learned during the LBM emphasis. In other words, what workmanship has God been doing in your life as a result of LBM?

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.

Leader Note – "The Message" paraphrase of Eph. 2:8-10 seeks to render these three verses in everyday language. During your group's discussion of Ephesians 2:8-10, you may want to read it to the group if you think it might aid in understanding the passage: "Saving is all his idea, and all his work. All we do is trust him enough to let him do it. It's God's gift from start to finish! We don't play the major role. If we did, we'd probably go around bragging that we'd done the whole thing! No, we neither make nor save ourselves. God does both the making and saving. He creates each of us by Christ Jesus to join him in the work he does, the good work he has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing." [Ephes. 2:8-10](#)