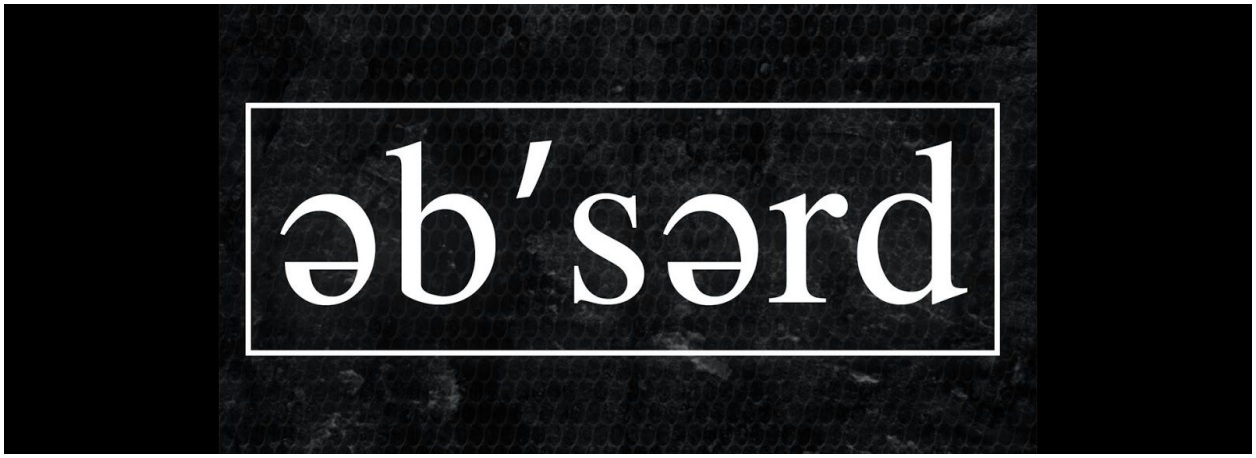


**Impact Weekend** **An Absurd Command**

Small Group Material April 17th, 2016

Participant Guide

**Bottom Line:** We are to submit to one another as Christ submitted himself to the Father for our sake.

**Study Verses:** Ephesians 5:21, Philippians 2:3-11

**Key Points**

- As long as we focus our attention on the people we are being asked to submit to, we never will.
- Our behavior towards one another should be governed by what Christ did for us.
- We forgive because He forgave us. We accept because He accepted us. We serve because He served us.
- If everyone considered and treated others better than themselves, the world would be a better place.
- Others are not worthy of your submission, but neither are you worthy of theirs.
- Jesus used His power for the benefit of others.
- A relationship with us took precedent over His own rights, rank and respect.
- Christ choose the relationship option: Our life for His death.
- Don’t allow your rights to interfere with your relationships.
- To refuse to submit to others is to demand more for ourselves than Christ demanded for

Himself.

**ENCOUNTER**

"Humility is not thinking less of yourself. It's thinking of yourself less." -C.S. Lewis

- Read the quote from C.S. Lewis. What do we get wrong about our view of humility? How has this word been misused in Christian circles?
- What is culture's view on submission and humility?
- Where do you draw the line as it relates to subordinating yourself to someone else? Why have you set the limit here?

**FORMATION**

- Read Philippians 2:1-2. How should our encounters with Christ create unity within our community? What should spur on our commitment to loving one another?
- Read Philippians 2:3-4. How would our relationships be different if we considered others better than ourselves and not be so concerned over the pecking order of life?
- Read Philippians 2:5-11. For Jesus, what took precedent over His rights, rank and respect? Why was Jesus more than willing to lay these things down?
- Read Ephesians 5:21. How does submitting to someone else demonstrate reverence for Christ? On the flip side, how does an unwillingness to submit to others show a lack of reverence?

**EXPRESSION**

- Where are you most vulnerable to justify putting your needs and desires above someone else? Why are you vulnerable in this area?
- How is demanding your rights damaging a current relationship?
- Where are you losing the respect of others by demanding their respect?
- What is one thing you can do this week to consider others better than yourself?