



Radical - Part 2 - "Finding Purpose"

Galatians 5:13-14 NIV

13 But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. 14 For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

John 3:16 NIV

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Philippians 2:1-11 NIV

1 Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. 5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; 7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross! 9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Key Points

- Serving is both a needed discipline and an authentic expression.
- God's love is not only sufficient for human relationships but also serves as the foundation for the fullness of human expression.
- We can perform a task or action and protect ourselves from feeling concerned.
- Serving is offering ourselves to others for their good and contributing to the good of the world around us.
- The opposite of serving is withholding. The opposite of a servant is a preserver.
- We define problems primarily in terms of their direct impact on our lives.
- The posture of the way of love is to give.

- Amid learning to give our lives away, we discover, experience, and share the fullness of life God promises.
- Life without love is to live without an adequate foundation for the relationships we long for. Nothing holds us together, so we drift apart— disintegrated, distrusting, undermined.
- We miss out when we hold on.
- Love provides the context from which you will be free enough to give.

READ

Open your time together by reading the scripture passages on Page 1. Then, take a moment to consider what you just read:

- ***Read Galatians 5:13-14. What qualities display an understanding of the freedom Christ extended to us? Why have we been set free?***
- ***Read John 3:16 and Philippians 2:1-11. How would you describe the servant mindset that Jesus possessed?***

REFLECT

“Love is the gift of the self.” -Ester Meek

- ***Read the quote from Ester Meek. How do we give the gift of self by loving others?***
- ***How has living within a culture of distrust influenced our relationships and how we interact, care for, and help others?***
- ***How does an absence of love enable manipulation, preservation, and indifference to flourish?***

RESPOND

- ***You have something to offer. Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not? How does your answer shape your contribution?***
- ***What keeps you from offering yourself fully?***
- ***What steps can you take toward offering yourself fully to the needs around you?***

PRAY

Close your time together with prayer requests. Ask how you can pray, support, and lift one another up. Pray over these requests either collectively or by breaking up into prayer partners.