

INTRODUCTION

In week two of our series *Church is More Than,* Pastor John admonishes us on the importance of participating in the church body through service. Jesus is our greatest example of service, as He came not to be served but to serve (Mark 10:45). This spiritual discipline was important to Jesus, and Pastor John makes a biblical case for why this is important for Christians today.

DISCUSSION

- 1. Jesus moved people from "consumer" to "contributor." **Read Mark 5:1-18.** Jesus told the demon-possessed man to return home and share what Jesus had done for him. What encouragement does this man's story provide for Christians?
- 2. God will take your "little" and make it "a lot." Consider an example of a time someone in the church body made an impact on you through their service, and share with the group.
- 3. **Read Mark 3:13-19.** How did Jesus set an example for us through His calling of the twelve disciples?
- 4. Serving pushes us away from selfish behavior and helps us see the big picture. How might this be true?
- 5. Pastor John explained we are not responsible for what God will do with our offering of service. In what ways is this comforting?

TAKE ACTION

- 1. If you're not serving, set aside time this week to pray about how you might take your first step. Visit prairielakes.org/serve to view some options.
- 2. Read and meditate on 1 Peter 4:10-11. Tell God you desire to be a faithful steward of His grace.
- 3. If you're already serving purposefully, reflect on the ways God has used this discipline to grow and teach you. Thank Him for the opportunity He's given you and pray for those you serve with. Prayerfully consider inviting someone to serve with you.

RESOURCES

- 1. Attend a First Step event at your campus, which offers an overview of both serving and next steps in your faith. If you're unable to attend one of these events, reach out to your pastor or another leader who can help you get connected.
- 2. Watch previous PLC sermons on serving.
 - "Our Volunteers"
 - "Serve One Another"
- 3. Encouragement to Volunteer Leaders, a RightNow Media video by Afshin Ziafat