



BiG IDEA SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Small groups that focus on the Big Idea for the week can use this guide to apply the message to life and take action. Feel free to use whatever parts of this guide best fit your group personality and time frame. Do NOT feel like you have to use every question. All verses, unless otherwise noted, are from the New International Version (NIV).

10.3/4.09 // Time Crunch - Time to Contribute

BiG iDEA: We contribute by serving, giving financially and advancing the Gospel.

// Ice Breaker _____

Option 1: Share a time when you volunteered and felt great about doing it. Note: It doesn't have to be at Southpoint, it can be school, work, social organizations, etc.

Option 2: What do you think about the statement in the message that says 'Everyone serves something?'. What are some things that people serve in our culture?

// Questions for Discussion _____

1. Read Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

What do you think the Bible means when it says we were created to do good works?

How does being 'God's workmanship' make you feel?

2. Read Philippians 2:5-7

⁵Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: ⁶Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

What is the difference between serving and being a servant?

What type of attitude should a true servant have?

3. Read 1 Corinthians 12:12

The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ.

Why do you think it is important for everyone to serve?

What happens when parts of the church body are missing?

Jesus measures greatness by service, not status. The size of the task is irrelevant. It's how much love you put into it.

4. Read Ephesians 4:12-13

¹²to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

How does being a servant help us develop spiritual maturity?

How is this different than the culture, which says we should be served rather than serve?

5. Read

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Philippians 4:13 I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

What is God's plan to give us the strength to be faithful servants?

What are some practical ways to help us tap into God's power?

6. Read 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

⁷Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

What should our attitude be in giving?

What things can we do to help keep a good attitude toward giving?

7. Billy Graham said 'Give me five minutes with a person's checkbook, and I will tell you where their heart is.'

What do you think he meant by this?

How can we use our checkbook as a barometer on our spiritual life?

8. Read Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Most of the people at Southpoint have come as a result of someone personally inviting them.

What are some ways that we can invite our friends and family?

What part do you think prayer plays in having others come to Southpoint?

// **Application** _____

Read and commit to memory Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

We are created to serve. Evaluate if your serving glorifies God by using your God given gifts and if you have a true servant's heart.

// **Prayer** _____

Pray to have a servant's heart and not just serve.

Pray for open hearts for those who are being invited to Southpoint.

