



BiG iDEA SMALL GROUP DiSCUSSiON GiDE

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).

04.17/18.10 // GOD AT THE MOVIES: BLIND SIDE

BiG iDEA:

Our love for God and His love in us motivates us to meet needs and make a difference.

// **Ice Breaker** _____

Option 1: Share a time when you either helped someone else or were helped. How did you feel?

Option 2: Did you see 'Blind Side'? How did you like it? What about other 'Good Samaritan' or 'Feel Good' movies?

// **Questions for Discussion** _____

1. James 1:27

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

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.

Why do you think orphans and widows are mentioned in James 1:27?

A car had a bumper sticker that said 'We are not saved by good works, We are saved for good works'. How would you explain this to someone new at Southpoint?

2. Luke 10:29 - 37

²⁹ But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰ In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³² So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.' ³⁶ "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" ³⁷ The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

Give some everyday examples of who would qualify as your neighbor.

Is it more difficult to help some people than others? What do you think would help us to be more comfortable helping those we may feel uncomfortable with?

The following questions are based on the five things noted in the sermon to help others.

3. He saw the man in need.

What are some reasons we don't see others needs?

How can we be more sensitive to seeing what others need?

4. He got his hands dirty.

What are some practical ways to help others?

What are some ways that Southpoint helps those in need?

5. He was inconvenienced.

Why is this a key point in Jesus story?

While we are generally inconvenienced in helping, what would you say are some positives in helping?

6. He befriended the person.

What are some ways to show friendship to those who we help?

What would some think if you helped someone out, but displayed a cold and uncaring attitude?

7. He gave money.

If we don't have money, what other ways could we help?

What would be some circumstances where money would help? Where it wouldn't help, or even be harmful?

8. Matthew 5:16

...Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

What affect do you think a Christian would have on an unbeliever by helping someone?

If Christians were serious about helping others, do you think the media would have a different view of us?

9. Acts 10:38

...how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

Now that Jesus is no longer a person on Earth, who does God want to have go around and help others?

How will God help us to help others?

10. Galatians 6: 9 - 10

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

Who should we do good to? When should we do it?

Is it sometimes hard for people to admit they need help and to accept it? What would be some ways to make them more comfortable accepting help?

11. Colossians 3:17

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

What should our attitude be if we get taken advantage of in helping someone out?

What are some things that can help us avoid this?

Has anyone in the group ever been taken advantage of?

12. Philippians 2:3

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.

James 3:13

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

What should our attitude be when we help others?

If we were prideful, how do you think the one being helped would feel?

13. Big Idea:

Our love for God and His love in us motivates us to meet needs and make a difference.

What should motivate us to help others?

How can we encourage ourselves and other Christians to meet needs?

// Application

Read and commit to memory Galatians 6: 9 - 10

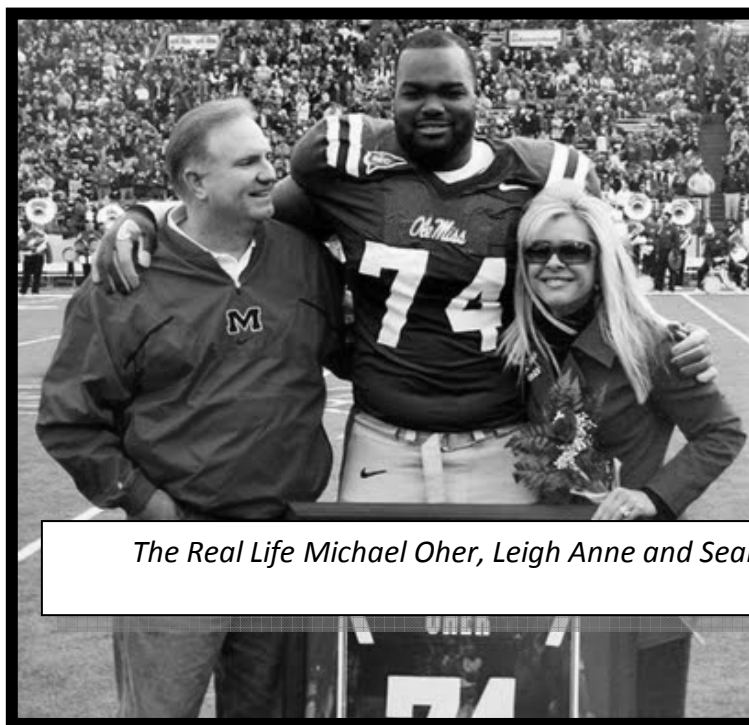
Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

Get your group together and do something to help others. Is there a single mom, widow, elderly person in your group or circle of friends that you could help? Visit a nursing home, etc.

// Prayer

That God would reveal our 'blind sides' and make us aware of others in need.

For courage and creativity in helping others.



The Real Life Michael Oher, Leigh Anne and Sean Tuohy