

4 Facts: Servant

Jesus lived His life on earth helping and serving others, and He asks us to do the same



B

Group Discussion Flow

connect with needs

- Find out how they are doing. Ask also how their **action to take** and **person to tell** went last week.
- Pray for wisdom from God for the session.
- Start by stating: *"People who are unselfish and serve make a powerful, positive impact on those around them."*
Then, surface experiences:
"Let me tell you how I have experienced this."
"Tell us how you have experienced this."
- Transition to the Bible by saying, *"Jesus demonstrated that He was unselfish and sought to serve people."*

hear what God says

- Read (or tell) a Bible story/passage related to the topic.
Choices:
John 13:1–17 (story)
Mark 1:40–42 (story)
Ephesians 6:7–8
Two of these passages may be enough to cover in one session.
Commentary:
John 13:1–17 — Jesus gives a lesson in humility when He washes the feet of the disciples. Such a menial task was usually left to the servants. Here, Jesus sets an example that we should do for others what He has done for us.
Mark 1:40–42 — A man with leprosy begged Jesus to make him clean. Touching a person with such a disease brought defilement under

the law. Jesus, however, unselfishly responded to the man's request and cured him.

Ephesians 6:7–8 — This passage challenges us to serve others as if we were serving God.

- Discuss each passage using the following questions, or the alternate questions below:
What do you think this passage teaches us?
What can we learn about God or our response to God?
How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: "People who are unselfish and serve make a powerful, positive impact on those around them"?

apply that to life

- State the main lesson: *"Jesus lived His life on earth helping and serving others, and He asks us to do the same."* Have them write the **lesson learned** on their Mini-Journal card.
- Discuss:
What are some things that keep us from helping or serving others?
What is one action you can take this week to help or serve someone else?
- Have them write down their specific **action to take**. Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.

tell someone they know

- Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- Have them write the name after **person to tell**. Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.
- Tell them how they will be helped by the next four sessions. See the [Dashboard, "4 Helps"](#).

notes and preparation checklist

pray

- ☐ Pray for wisdom.
- ☐ Pray for group members.

connect

- ☐ Think of a good personal example to share.
- ☐ Decide when and how to transition from **connect** to **hear**.

notes and preparation checklist

hear

Alternate questions to ask:

- ☐ **John 13:1–17**
 1. *What are some qualities about Jesus we see in the act of washing the disciples' feet?*
 2. *If we take the qualities of humility and serving beyond washing people's feet, what are some ways we can apply those qualities in the context of our daily lives?*
- ☐ **Mark 1:40–42**
 1. *What might be some reasons Jesus wouldn't want to touch the leper?*

2. Why did he do it?

Note: This next passage moves from Jesus serving to our following His example in serving.

- ☐ **Ephesians 6:7–8**
 1. *What would be some alternatives to wholehearted service? (Reluctant, begrudging)*
 2. *What are some examples you have seen of both wholehearted and begrudging service?*

notes and preparation checklist

apply

- ☐ Decide when and how to transition from **hear** to **apply**.
- ☐ Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. Have an example in mind.
- ☐ Print [Servant Mini Journal](#).

notes and preparation checklist

tell

- ☐ Encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- ☐ Look for group members who **tell** easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.