

Embody



Essentials – Serve Others.

ICEBREAKER

Think of the last time that you had the opportunity to serve someone: perhaps a friend, family member, or a total stranger, someone on a mission trip, at Fairhaven, etc. Share that experience. How did it affect you and make you feel? How did it affect the person you served?

INTRODUCTION

If you've ever purchased a piece of exercise equipment, you know that there isn't any benefit unless you use it regularly. The same is true with serving. Until we engage our time and talents in caring for others, it will be difficult for us to find our place and experience the fulfillment that serving brings. When we find the role God has for us, we will experience personal growth and joy. We'll also display the hope and love of Jesus to a broken world around us.

1 Peter 4:10 states "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:"

What serving roles have you filled in the past, and which were most enjoyable? Were there any that were not enjoyable? What did you learn about how God has gifted you?

INTO GOD'S WORD

Read Mark 10:45. How does understanding Jesus' purpose of coming to serve and give his life as a ransom for many impact our understanding of Christian discipleship and our call to serve others?

Read Philippians 2:3-4. How can we practically apply the principles of humility, selflessness, and valuing others above ourselves in our daily lives and interactions with those around us?

WEEK 5 – SERVE OTHERS

Read Matthew 25:35-36. How can we actively live out the teachings of Jesus in our community today, ensuring that we are meeting the practical needs of those around us with love and compassion?

Read Galatians 5:13. How can we balance our freedoms in Christ with our obligation to Jesus' teachings to serve others and put others' needs before our own?

A P P L I C A T I O N

The Bible emphasizes serving others as central to the Christian faith. Jesus' example of sacrificial love inspires believers to prioritize the needs of others, demonstrating humility and selflessness. Through acts of service, believers embody the gospel message, reflecting Christ's compassion and bringing the hope of Jesus to a broken world.

Discussion: What challenges do you face in serving those around you? Do you currently have a fulfilling place to serve?

If forced to choose a Fairhaven ministry to serve in, what would you choose? Why? What would it be if you had to choose a ministry outside of the church? Why?

D A I L Y T H I S W E E K (C h o o s e o n e)

In what ways might you serve a person, a ministry, or a community organization over the course of this next week? Journal what that experience is like. How did serving affect you? How did it affect those you served? Consider some of the following ways to begin serving:

- Pick up groceries for an elderly neighbor, or choose to help them with their house cleaning, cooking, yard work, etc.
- Volunteer to spend time with people at a local nursing home.
- Take a meal to someone who is sick, grieving, or needs the assistance of someone else. Spend quality time with that person by listening well and showing compassion.
- Take someone to lunch to encourage them and affirm the good things you see in their life.

WEEK 5 – SERVE OTHERS

P R A Y E R

Heavenly Father, thank you for the opportunity to learn more about what it means to serve you and others. Lord, strengthen us to be true servants, following Jesus' example. Open our eyes to the needs of those around us and give us the wisdom to discern how best to serve with humility and love. May we be representatives of your peace, joy, and kindness in a world that desperately needs your light. Amen.

S U G G E S T E D R E S O U R C E S

Crazy Love: Overwhelmed by a Relentless God, Francis Chan

David C Cook, 2013

The Servant Leader: Transforming Your Heart, Head, Hands & Habits, Ken Blanchard

Thomas Nelson, 2003

Developing a Servant's Heart: Become Fully Like Christ by Serving Others, Charles F. Stanley

HarperChristian Resources, 2020

Serving a Movement: Doing Balanced, Gospel-Centered Ministry in Your City. Timothy Keller

Zondervan, 2016

If you have questions or would like to talk to a Pastor on this subject, please contact your Campus Pastor.