CONNECT GROUP GUIDE | 2017.06.11 "EPHESIANS #8: SERVE ONE ANOTHER" // EPH. 5:21-6:9

ORGANIC CONVERSATION (WHAT SPOKE TO YOU FROM THIS WEEK'S WORSHIP GATHERING?)

Were you challenged or encouraged in any way? How? Have you seen anything play out in your life recently?

FROM HEAD -> HEART -> HANDS (MAKING IT REAL)

Alex defined "submit" as: Putting my agenda aside to work together with my fellow servants, as we each step up to God's call and carry what we've been given to carry.

Which part of this seems the hardest/most frustrating to do?

Most motivating?

Who does it especially seem hard to submit to/serve? What are some of the **excuses** that come to mind when you've had a hard time serving those around you? Do they have to be deserving in order for you to serve them?

THE THREADS OF SCRIPTURE (ADDITIONAL BIBLE PASSAGES FOR STUDY/DISCUSSION)

Scripture: Read 1 Peter 2:16-17 (always feel free to share with each other in response to the scripture before going on to the guide)

Verse 16 seems to contradict itself ("live as people who are free...as servants of God."). How can we be free and yet slaves at the same time?

Why is it so important that we've experienced the fullness of God's salvation and freedom before we try to serve others?

The Bible uses the phrase "selfish ambition" several times. Have you ever been around someone who has "served" you but you know that they were really doing it to serve themselves or keep score perhaps?

Evaluate the times over the last couple weeks where you've served someone/somewhere. What was your motive? Were you at all motivated to serve in order to...be recognized? ...curry favor? ...pay back a favor?

A servant of Jesus does so *willingly, not expecting reward*. Anything need to change in how you serve others?

STEP-BY-STEP (WHAT NOW?)

While conversation is good, we want to see our lives changed by God! What is God calling you to do in response to His Word?

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