

WORSHIP

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONGS:

God is Great, Dwell in Your Throne, Potter's Hands, With All I Am

WELCOME

Quotable Quote. Share to the group your favorite quote.

WORD

EPHESIANS 4:11–12

¹¹And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, ¹²for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;

With a lot of evil happening in the world, people may think evil is already winning or has the upper hand. But as Edmund Burke, an Irish statesman, once said that “The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing”. As followers of Christ, what are we supposed to do?

Many people are going through life not realizing that their greatest need is Jesus. God has placed us where we are for a purpose and today will always be the best time to live it out. The overarching principle is to most visibly display Christlikeness by radically loving and serving others.

GO SERVE IN A SMALL GROUP

The most important place for us to learn the rudiments of serving other people is within the context of a small group. It is where we can spend time to hear from other people, listen to what is in their heart, share godly advice, and because we love them, tell them what they need to hear, not just what they want to hear.

A small group is like living in a community where the goal of everyone is to pursue Christlikeness. Here are two examples of how we can picture a discipleship group:

A Battlefield Hospital – Whenever we are wounded from our spiritual battles, our small group is like a haven wherein we can come to be cared for and find renewal of strength. It helps in preparing us to go out again in the battlefield where people need to hear about Jesus, to feel His love and care.

Training Camp – A small group can also be a place where our characters can be developed for a greater capacity to go out where people need Jesus. Together, as a small group, we are being equipped for works of

service (**Ephesians 4:11–12**). God placed people within our reach whom we can work with to make an impact for the kingdom of God.

LOVE AND SERVE RADICALLY

History accounts the remarkable service of early Christians during a plague that struck the Roman Empire in 240 A.D. In this time of great need, when almost everybody including doctors, scientists and priests have fled and left the sick people to just die, the early Christians stayed on, looked after each other, and even took it as an opportunity to serve even those outside the community of believers. They reached out and touched many people's lives. They helped the poor, cared for the sick, both the young and old. They buried their own dead and even those of others. Many Christian survivors got immune to the plague and thus were able to help so many.

Today, our families, communities and society face many plagues (emotional and spiritual) that are sucking the life out of people. Though the problems may seem impossible to handle, many times they are great opportunities to display Christlikeness.

When God's people shed their differences and get united toward a common objective of thinking more of others than themselves, they make a greater impact in the world for God's greater glory.

From the story of Nehemiah, we can learn of another instance wherein God's people came together for works of service. Israelites from different backgrounds and skills worked side by side with each other to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem (**Nehemiah 3**). Definitely, it was not an easy task. But as everyone did their part and whatever is within their capacity to do so, the burden was not overwhelming. In the end,

WORD (cont'd)

the work of these men and women serving together made an impact.

PRAY CARE SHARE

God does not call the qualified but He qualifies the called. All of God's people are indeed called to do something; no exemptions, no benchwarmers, no excuses. Whatever we have, regardless of our backgrounds, we can and we should serve.

Many times, people get overwhelmed when challenged to start making disciples. But with the small group as a training camp, it can help to equip people to "Pray-Care-Share". Pray for at least one

person in within the natural environment of your family, neighborhood, school, or workplace. Do simple things to show you care and be able to connect and build relationship with them. Then simply share how Jesus made the biggest difference in your life. Start with one and let God bring the multiplication.

"The reason most of us do not see the opportunities to serve is that we are continually thinking about ourselves instead of others." – Jerry Bridges

Love is the language that builds relationships, and the byproduct is service. We can serve without loving but we cannot love without serving.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

- 1. The Great Wall.** What makes the rebuilding of the wall of Jerusalem remarkable as you read **Nehemiah 3**?
- 2. Love Radically.** Have you loved radically? What is the outflow of loving others radically?
- 3. Start with One.** Are you challenged to start making disciples? What is your move? How can your Dgroup help you to start discipling at least one person?

WORKS

MOVE! GO SERVE

You are saved to serve. Pray with your Dgroup to help you find a ministry where you can serve with them. Visit the CCF website <http://www.ccf.org.ph/goserve> to learn more about how you can serve.

If you are a Dgroup leader, encourage your members to join a ministry where they can serve. Model it to them, guide them, and do it together, until they can do it by themselves.

All God's people are called to do something, no exemptions, no benchwarmers, no excuses. Move and go serve!

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

- Upright and moral governance of Public Servants and a God-centered Philippines
- Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Facilities

- Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends