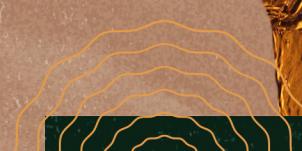
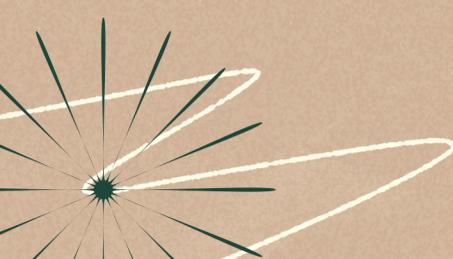


FIRST THINGS



SCGCHURCH





GET YOUR LIFE TOGETHER!

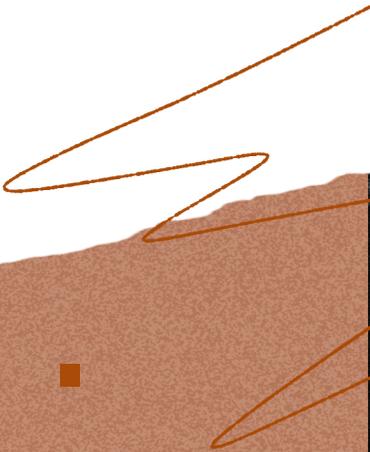
This year has left a lot of us feeling lonely, afraid, frustrated and just plain stuck. Believe it or not, Jesus can still change everything for us, even this crazy year. Through the course of this challenging series we will examine ways that our own misaligned values, goals, and perspectives have landed us in exactly the position we are in. We will learn some foundational principles for Christian living and begin to align our priorities to God's. Only when we give God's First Things their proper place in our lives can we begin to live out our fullest potential in Christ...let's get going!

FIRST THINGS



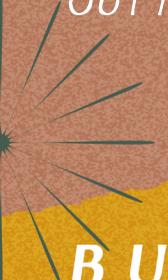
WHO WE ARE

Here at SCG Church we operate based on one very simple but profound truth: Jesus changes everything! Because He has changed everything for us and we know that He can do the same for others, we want to share this news with everyone. We do this by BRINGING our friends, family, and community in to hear Christ's message of hope. We BUILD UP our faith through community life, Scripture, and prayer. And finally, we GO OUT into our community and the world to bless and serve.



BUILDING UP

The best way to build up your faith is to get to know Jesus and His people better. Our Rooted small groups are the very best way to do this. These groups are formed in Rooted and grow closer and deeper as they progress through our curriculum. As you study God's Word and pray (both on your own and with your group) you will find Jesus changing everything for you too, day by day.



FIRST THINGS

THIS GUIDE

We have designed this guide for groups who have not yet had a chance to take Rooted and for R+ groups that are looking for a study to take them deeper once they have finished the Rooted curriculum. This study will follow along with the weekend messages and includes suggested daily readings as well as group discussion questions.

DAILY READINGS

There is absolutely nothing that will grow your faith more than spending time alone with God each day. God speaks to us in this time using His Word, the Bible; so we take time to READ it and to LISTEN to what He has to say. In prayer we have a conversation with God--He speaks to us, and it gives us a chance to SPEAK back to Him. We have designed our daily devotionals to help you to be able to hear God clearly as you spend time with Him every day.

- 1. READ:** Look up the passage that is listed. Each day will only have 2-3 verses for you to read. Read through the passage 2-3 times. If you do not understand it, try reading a few verses before/after to put it into context.
- 2. LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
 - What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?
 - What impact does that have on me?
 - What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?
- 3. SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer. A helpful acronym to use is ACTS:
 - A (Adoration):** Tell God what you like about Him
 - C (Confession):** Tell God where you have fallen short today and ask for His forgiveness.
 - T (Thanksgiving):** Thank God for His grace, mercy and the many blessings He has given you.
 - S (Supplication):** Ask God for what you need: emotionally, physically, relationally, and spiritually.

FIRST THINGS

GROUP DISCUSSION

Next to spending time alone with God, the second most powerful tool for growing your faith is setting aside a regular time to meet with other people who are growing closer to Jesus too. We have designed this guide for weekly group meetings and have structured it to help you get to know God, His Word, and His people better. There are three main sections for each week (they should sound familiar by now):

COME IN

These questions are designed to help your group get to know and feel comfortable with each other. They introduce the subject you will be discussing during your group time and familiarize you with some of the topics you will be covering.

BUILD UP

This is the meat of your weekly group time. You will dive into a passage of Scripture. You'll read it, think about questions you might have, and use what you learn to expand your knowledge of God.

LOOK DOWN: *Each week you will study one (or more) short passages of Scripture with your group. You will read through the passage as a group, so you will need a Bible (you can download the YouVersion App to get one on your phone for free).*

LOOK IN: *This section will contain a series of questions designed to get you thinking and to deepen your understanding of the passage. Don't be afraid to ask questions of your own or worry that you'll say something "wrong." You and your group are here to help each other grow. Your leader may not have all the answers right away, but they can help you find them!*

LOOK UP: *When you spend time with God and with other believers it helps you to know Him better. These questions will help you to gain a better understanding of who God is, what He does, and how He feels about you.*

GO OUT

Scripture tells us that it is useless to just study Scripture if we don't do something with what we have learned. This section will help you to make an action plan to put what you learn each week into practice.

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 1: JESUS FIRST

DAILY DEVOS

DAY 1

- READ: Proverbs 3:5-6.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 2

- READ: Ecclesiastes 3:1-9.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 3

- READ: Matthew 22:34-40.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 1: JESUS FIRST

DAILY DEVOS

DAY 4

- READ:** *Matthew 10:37-39.* Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 5

- READ:** *1 John 4:7-8.* Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 6-7

•**REFRESH:** Take a few moments to look back over what you have learned this week. Ask God to help you to grasp more fully anything that you didn't quite understand. Is there anything that you realized God wanted you to do/change that you haven't started working on yet? Schedule time today to get started.

•**REMEMBER:** Spend some time SPEAKING with God. Take a few extra moments to think about all of the wonderful things God has done for you, especially as you have grown in your relationship with Him.

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 1: JESUS FIRST GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

MAIN POINT

WITHOUT JESUS, OUR LIVES ARE A MESS.
ONLY WHEN WE PUT JESUS FIRST DO OUR
LIVES COME INTO ORDER.

COME IN

What would you say are your top 5 priorities for this week? What important things didn't make the cut? Why?

BUILD UP

LOOK DOWN | Read the following passages:

Matthew 22:34-40

Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

Matthew 10:37-39

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

LOOK IN

- The Greek word for heart is "**kardia**". What do you think this word means in the context of Matt 22 (you may find it helpful to use a dictionary, concordance or online search)? What does it mean to love God with all of your heart?
- The Greek word for soul is "**psyche**". What do you think this word means in this context? What does it mean to love God with all of your soul?
- The Greek word for mind is "**dianoia**". What do you think this word means in this context? What does it mean to love God with all of your mind?
- If all of your love is directed towards God, where do you think the love necessary to fulfil the "second" commandment comes from? See also 1 John 4:7-8.
- Matt. 10:37-39 sets some very strong guidelines for the order of a believers' love. Why do you think it's so important to Jesus that we love Him before we love anything else? How do your answers to #1 and #2 bring clarity to this issue?

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 1: JESUS FIRST GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

LOOK UP

What is it about God that makes it so beneficial for us to put our devotion and commitment to Him above everything else?

GO OUT

1. What in your life is competing for top priority with Jesus?
2. What would your life look like if Jesus were your first priority?
3. Take a few minutes and have each member of the group share a prayer request and one tangible thing that they will do/change as a result of your study time.

WEEK 1 NOTES:

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 2: KINGDOM FIRST

DAILY DEVOS

DAY 1

- READ: Matthew 6:26-27.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 2

- READ: Matthew 6:28-30.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 3

- READ: Matthew 6:31-33.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 2: KINGDOM FIRST

DAILY DEVOS

DAY 4

- READ: Matthew 6:34.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 5

- READ: Philippians 4:11-13.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 6-7

•**REFRESH:** Take a few moments to look back over what you have learned this week. Ask God to help you to grasp more fully anything that you didn't quite understand. Is there anything that you realized God wanted you to do/change that you haven't started working on yet? Schedule time today to get started.

•**REMEMBER:** Spend some time SPEAKING with God. Take a few extra moments to think about all of the wonderful things God has done for you, especially as you have grown in your relationship with Him.

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 2: KINGDOM FIRST GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

MAIN POINT

WE NEED TO SEEK GOD'S WILL FIRST.
ONLY IN HIS WILL CAN WE CONQUER
WORRY, FIND FULFILLMENT, AND
DISCOVER OUR TRUE PURPOSE.

COME IN

What did you want to be when you grew up? What changed your mind?

BUILD UP

LOOK DOWN | Read the following passage:

Matthew 6:25-34

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

LOOK IN

- What are you most worried about today (if you can't think of anything, try to remember what you thought about most today...it's probably what you're worrying about)?
- Why does Jesus say that we shouldn't waste time on worry?
- What does it mean to "seek first His kingdom"? What will be the result? What do you think He means by "all these things?"
- When we have so many responsibilities, it doesn't seem logical to put something before all of them. Read Matthew 6:33, Colossians 3:2 and Philippians 4:11-13 & 19. What does God promise will happen when we put His kingdom first?
- Putting God's kingdom first doesn't mean we don't have other priorities in our lives. Read Romans 12:1-2. How does putting God first make sense of all of the other priorities?

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 2: KINGDOM FIRST GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

LOOK UP

What do you think God's Kingdom looks like? What does it look like now (here on Earth)? What will it look like in the future?

GO OUT

1. What is the Kingdom Work that God has called you to spend your life on? If you do not know the answer to this question, ask it of yourself and God each day in your daily quiet time until He provides a clear answer.
2. Take a few minutes and have each member of the group share a prayer request and one tangible thing that they will do/change as a result of your study time.

WEEK 2 NOTES:

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 3: LOVE FIRST

DAILY DEVOS

DAY 1

- READ:** *John 13:34-35.* Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 2

- READ:** *John 4:7-12.* Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 3

- READ:** *John 4:13-16a.* Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 3: LOVE FIRST

DAILY DEVOS

DAY 4

- READ:** 1 John 4:16b-18. Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 5

- READ:** 1 John 4:19-21. Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 6-7

•**REFRESH:** Take a few moments to look back over what you have learned this week. Ask God to help you to grasp more fully anything that you didn't quite understand. Is there anything that you realized God wanted you to do/change that you haven't started working on yet? Schedule time today to get started.

•**REMEMBER:** Spend some time SPEAKING with God. Take a few extra moments to think about all of the wonderful things God has done for you, especially as you have grown in your relationship with Him.

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 3: LOVE FIRST GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

MAIN POINT

WE MUST LOVE FIRST BECAUSE JESUS LOVED US FIRST. HIS RADICAL AND SACRIFICIAL LOVE FOR US IS OUR CALLING TO LOVE OTHERS.

COME IN

What movie have you seen (recently or in the past) that tells the best story of true love (not just romance)?

BUILD UP

LOOK DOWN | Read following passage:

John 13:34-35

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

1 John 4:7-21

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We love because he first loved us. Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

LOOK IN

- Circle the correct word based on John 13:34.
Jesus _____ believers love each.
A. Commands
B. Suggests
- What do you see as the difference between the two? Do you treat your love for other believers more as a command or a suggestion?

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 3: LOVE FIRST GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

LOOK IN | continued...

- What examples of love in action does John give in 1 John 4 (there are quite a few)? Spend a few minutes discussing each one as a group: what does this type of love actually look like in real life? How does it impact me today?
- Fill in the blanks using v. 10:
_____ loved _____ first.
- How does this order impact the manner and reasons behind you loving others?
- Why is it so important to God that believers demonstrate love towards each other? See v. 12.

LOOK UP

What do you think John means by saying “God is love” in 1 John 4:8? What is the significance of this statement? How does this impact your image of who God is?

GO OUT

1. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. Keeping in mind all of the passages we have talked about today, what aspects of love are most evident in your life? What areas need work?
2. Take a few minutes and have each member of the group share a prayer request and one tangible thing that they will do/change as a result of your study time.

WEEK 3 NOTES:

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 4: OTHERS FIRST

DAILY DEVOS

DAY 1

- READ: Matthew 20:1-16.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 2

- READ: Matthew 20:1-16.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 3

- READ: Matthew 20:20-23.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 4: OTHERS FIRST

DAILY DEVOS

DAY 4

- READ: Matthew 20:24-26.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 5

- READ: Matthew 20:26-28.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 6-7

•**REFRESH:** Take a few moments to look back over what you have learned this week. Ask God to help you to grasp more fully anything that you didn't quite understand. Is there anything that you realized God wanted you to do/change that you haven't started working on yet? Schedule time today to get started.

•**REMEMBER:** Spend some time SPEAKING with God. Take a few extra moments to think about all of the wonderful things God has done for you, especially as you have grown in your relationship with Him.

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 4: OTHERS FIRST GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

MAIN POINT

CHRIST'S EXAMPLE SHOWS THAT WE NEED TO SEEK THE GOOD OF OTHERS FIRST. ONLY WHEN WE PUT OTHERS' NEEDS BEFORE OUR OWN CAN WE TRULY UNDERSTAND THE DEPTH OF GOD'S LOVE FOR US AND BEGIN TO CARRY OUT HIS PURPOSES FOR OUR LIVES.

COME IN

Think about a time that another person has genuinely served you. What did you like or appreciate about their service? Was there anything about it that was challenging or difficult for you?

BUILD UP

LOOK DOWN | Read the following passages:

Matthew 20:1-16

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. "About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. "He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?'" "Because no one has hired us," they answered. "He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.' "When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.'" "The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. 'These who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.' "But he answered one of them, 'I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?' "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Matthew 20:20-28

Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Jesus with her sons and, kneeling down, asked a favor of him. "What is it you want?" he asked. She said, "Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom." "You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said to them. "Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?" "We can," they answered. Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink from my cup, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by my Father." When the ten heard about this, they were indignant with the two brothers. Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 4: OTHERS FIRST GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

LOOK IN

- Summarize in a few sentences the story Jesus tells in Matt. 20:1-16. Is what happens to each of the workers fair? Is it just? Why or why not?
- What is Jesus' main point? How does this point relate to His final statement in v. 16?
- If you were to summarize the formula for “greatness” in the world, what would it be? What formula for greatness does Jesus lay out in v. 20-27? What are the costs and benefits of each formula? Which formula seems the most effective/logical to you? Why?
- What does it mean to serve someone? Read Colossians 3:23 – 24, Luke 6:38 & Galatians 5:13-14. How does that change your perspective of serving?
- How might service look different for different people?

LOOK UP

Keeping in mind that Jesus is God in the flesh, what is profound about v. 28? What does it mean to you that God came to Earth for the express purpose of serving people (you included)?

GO OUT

1. What areas of need do you see in your neighborhood? In your community as a whole? In this church?
2. How is God calling you to serve in one (or ALL) of these areas right now? Be specific.

WEEK 4 NOTES:

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 5: GRATITUDE FIRST

DAILY DEVOS

DAY 1

- READ: LUKE 17:11-19.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 2

- READ: PSLAM 19:1-6.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 3

- READ: PSALM 19:10-13.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

FIRST THINGS

WEEK 5: GRATITUDE FIRST

DAILY DEVOS

DAY 4

- READ: Psalm 19:10-13.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 5

- READ: Psalm 19:14.** Read through the passage 2-3 times.
- LISTEN:** Take a moment to ponder what you have just read. Ask yourself:
What is this passage really saying about God, the world, me, and/or my life and actions?

What impact does that have on me?

What do I need to do/change as a result of what I have learned today?

- SPEAK:** Spend the last few minutes of your time with God in prayer using the ACTS Model of prayer.

DAY 6-7

•**REFRESH:** Take a few moments to look back over what you have learned this week. Ask God to help you to grasp more fully anything that you didn't quite understand. Is there anything that you realized God wanted you to do/change that you haven't started working on yet? Schedule time today to get started.

•**REMEMBER:** Spend some time SPEAKING with God. Take a few extra moments to think about all of the wonderful things God has done for you, especially as you have grown in your relationship with Him.

PRAYER REQUESTS

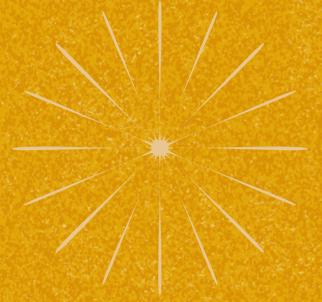
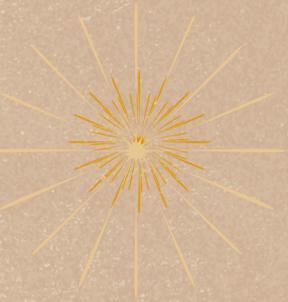
WEEK 1

WEEK 2

PRAYER REQUESTS

WEEK 3

WEEK 4



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PHONE #:

SCGCHURCH

