

Made for More: Small Group Guide

Week 6: Self-Less Living

February 8, 2026

Opening Prayer & Icebreaker

Icebreaker Question: Share a time when someone served you selflessly when you didn't deserve it. How did it make you feel?

Sermon Overview

This sermon challenges us to move from self-centeredness to selflessness in our relationships. Pastor emphasized that we're made for more than letting our moods dictate our relationships, and that true relational strength comes from finding our identity, contentment, and gratitude in Christ.

Key Scripture References

- **Mark 9:35** - "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last and the servant of all."
- **Luke 9:23** - "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves, take up their cross daily and follow me."
- **Philippians 2:1-4** - United with Christ, we can value others above ourselves
- **Genesis 13:8-17** - Abraham and Lot: The example of selfless generosity

Discussion Questions

Section 1: Recognizing Selfishness

1. **The pastor asked: "Am I becoming more selfless and less self-centered?"** Where would you honestly place yourself on that continuum right now? What evidence supports your answer?
2. How does consumer culture make it harder to be selfless? Can you identify specific ways this affects your daily interactions?
3. The sermon mentioned that self-centered people "take conversations and use them as a jumping pad" for what they want to talk about. Have you caught yourself doing this? What triggers this behavior in you?

Section 2: The Challenge

4. **"Our challenge is to be selfless when someone else is blatantly selfish."** Who in your life is most difficult to serve selflessly? What makes it so challenging?

5. Read Galatians 5:13-15. The passage warns about "biting and devouring each other." What does this look like in modern relationships (at home, work, church)?
6. Discuss the difference between being selfless and being a doormat. Where is the biblical boundary?

Section 3: The Solution

7. The sermon presented three foundations for selflessness from Philippians 2:1-2:

- **United with Christ** (secure identity)
- **Comfort from His love** (emotional needs met)
- **Common sharing in the Spirit** (supernatural empowerment)

Which of these three do you need to cultivate most right now? Why?

8. **"It's not that we think too highly or too lowly of ourselves—it's that we think of ourselves less."** What would change in your most difficult relationship if you practiced this "art of self-forgetfulness"?
9. The pastor said, "I don't know how you face life without faith." How does your faith in Christ specifically enable you to serve difficult people?

Key Takeaways

- ✓ **Our moods shouldn't dictate our relational commitment.** We're called to consistency that transcends our feelings.
- ✓ **Selflessness isn't natural—it's supernatural.** It flows from our secure identity in Christ, not from willpower.
- ✓ **The pathway to giving is receiving from Christ first.** We can't pour out what we haven't received.
- ✓ **God notices and promises to bless selfless living.** Like Abraham, our sacrificial choices don't go unnoticed by God.

Prayer Focus

Pray together as a group:

- Confess areas of selfishness and self-centeredness
- Ask God to deepen your identity, contentment, and gratitude in Christ
- Pray for specific relationships where selflessness is difficult
- Thank God that He notices and promises to bless our obedience
- Ask for the Holy Spirit's empowerment to love like Jesus loves