

The Life Challenge

"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10

Series: Making Him Known
Title: All That You Can't Leave Behind (Part 2)
Text: Mark 3:31-35; 10:35-45
Speaker: Matt Ewert
Date: October 6, 2019



WARM-UP

This weekend, we took a look at two of our church's four value statements:

- Spirit-led Serving
- Life Together

Share one personal "take away" from this past weekend's worship service.

DISCUSSION

SPIRIT-LED SERVING

Read Mark 10:35-45

- Reflect on the New Testaments witness to the life of Jesus, and specifically the way in which His life of service is revealed throughout.
- What actions show Jesus' posture of servanthood?
- What attitudes show Jesus' posture of servanthood?

Philippians 2:1-8 is a well known passage that talks about Jesus being a servant.

- Read the passage.
- How does Paul call Christians to live (first part of the passage) in light of the servanthood Jesus displayed (second part of the passage)?

In the teaching time, Spirit-led Serving was described as living a life of service that comes out of the calling and gifting of the Holy Spirit, and is done in the power of the Holy Spirit.

- How would you describe the difference between "Spirit-led Serving" and simply engaging in church activity?

LIFE TOGETHER

What do you imagine when you think of the phrase "Life Together"?

Read Mark 3:31-35

In this passage, Jesus makes the startling claim that those who do the will of God are as much His family as His blood relatives.

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DISCUSSION

- Is family an accurate descriptor of your experience of Christian community?
- In what way does "family" describe your Christian experience?
- In what way does your experience fall short of being "family" with other Christians?

Authenticity is a critical ingredient for truly experiencing "Life Together".

- Read Ephesians 4:20-24.
- Stephen McAlpin suggests that, "*Authenticity in the Church is the quality of our exposure of brokenness and adornment in God's grace. An authentic person is one who is both privately and publicly putting off the old self and, by God's grace, putting on the renewed self.*"
- Do you think South Abbotsford Church is a safe place to be authentic? Why or why not?
- What could be done to make South Abbotsford Church a safer environment in which to experience "Life Together" in authentic relationship?
- What could be done in your Life Group do to foster deeper authenticity?