

THIS WEEKS MESSAGE

October 27 & 28 '07
"True Identity - Find It, Live It" Series

This Week's Message: "Charisma"
Pastor Scott Lanigan

Galatians 5: 25, 26 (The Message)

"Since this is the kind of life we have chosen, the life of the Spirit, let us make sure that we do not just hold it as an idea in our heads or a sentiment in our hearts, but work out its implications in every detail of our lives. That means we will not compare ourselves with each other as if one of us were better and another worse. We have far more interesting things to do with our lives. Each of us is an original."



Oswald Chambers said, "Never allow the thought, 'I am no use where I am.' You certainly can be of no use where you are not."

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

2 Corinthians 12:9

"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

As you open your small group time together, read through this passage and spend a few moments contemplating the encouraging words Paul penned. Think of times this past week when you felt utterly weak, or faced a tough meeting, or an uncertain moment. Now let God remind you of his power, his sufficiency for your life. Pray that God would continue to remind you of his promise in the days to come.

Vincent Van Gogh is quoted as saying, "How can I be useful, of what service can I be? There is something inside me, what can it be." As Christians, we know both the who and how of this compelling questions. We have Christ in us. We have love ingrained in our souls. We have a mission clearly set out before us. As we studied in Galatians 5:25-26 this past week, the Life of the Spirit, the Life we have chosen impacts every aspect of our lives. It is how we are to "do" life. We may never be more like Christ than when we are serving; serving out of pure love and a purely selfless motivation.

1. Examining the Truth – What Is It Saying?

What "stuck out" from the service this past weekend? What truth did you come away with?

Look at John's account of Jesus demonstrating service in John 13:1-16. What lessons about being "Christ-like" can be taken away from this story?

2. Evaluating with Truth – What Does It Mean for Us?

Take some time to read through the following passages with this question in mind: How am I to serve others as an follower of Christ?

Philippians 2:3-8

Matthew 20:26-28

Mark 10:31

Ephesians 6:7

1 Timothy 4:12

1 Peter 4:11

In the day to day, how can God use you and the gifts he has given you?

3. Engaging the Truth – How Should We Respond?

Answer the question: How can using my giftedness create connectedness among this group/our church?

Explore some ways in which your small group can help each individual understand where their strength's lie.

What kind of service and/or outreach event can your small group do?