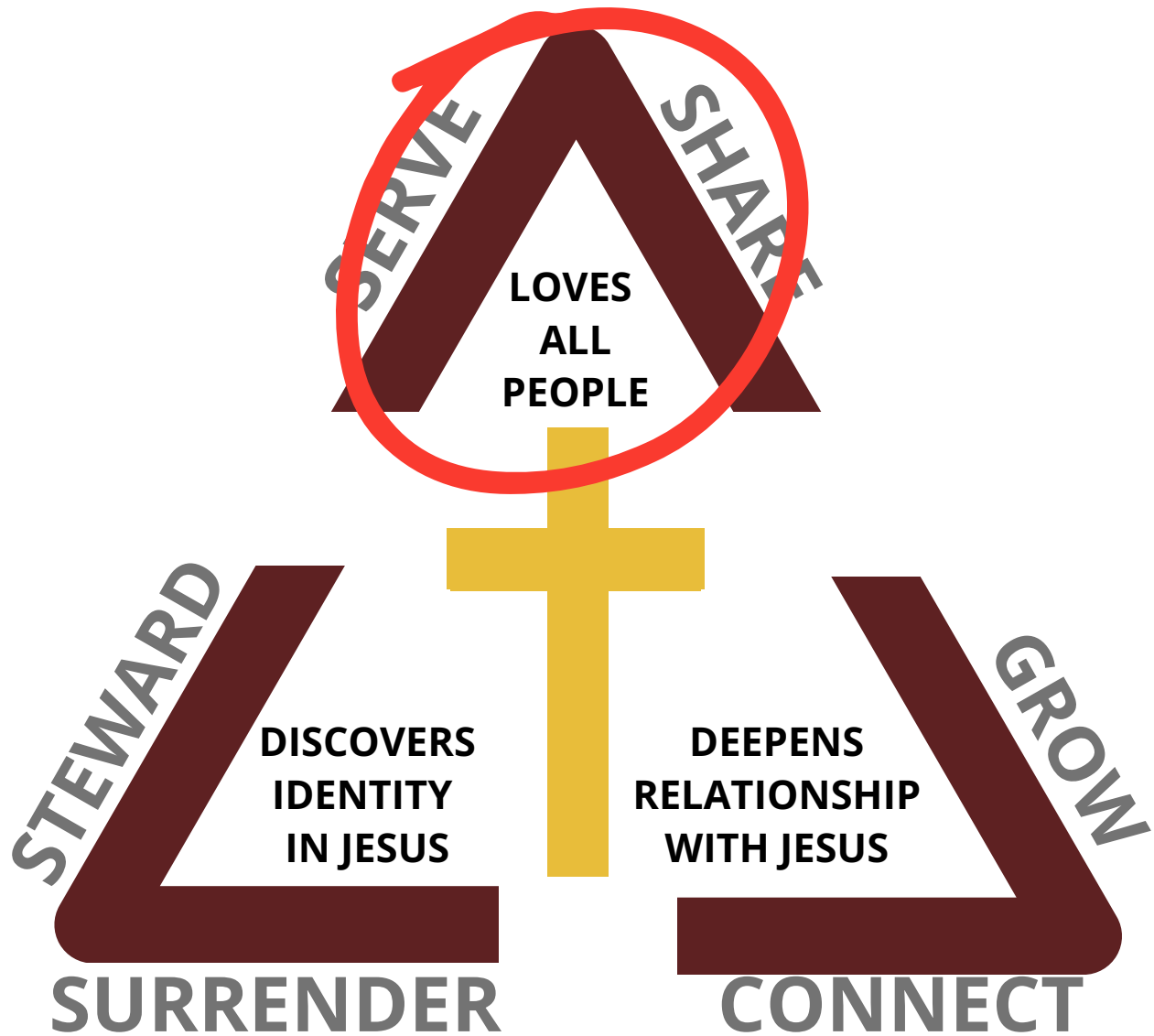


# 5-DAY DEVOTIONAL:



## LOVING ALL PEOPLE

# 5-Day Devotional: Loving all people

*Dear Parents,*

*We are thrilled to share with you this devotional packet, which mirrors the topics and lessons we're covering with our students. This resource is designed not only to help keep you informed but also to empower you to engage in meaningful conversations with your teen about their spiritual journey. We believe that faith is best nurtured when reinforced both in the community & at home. These devotions provide a fantastic opportunity to deepen your connection with your teen, discuss the teachings they're receiving, & explore how these lessons apply to everyday life. We encourage you to set aside time each week to go through these devotions together, ask questions, & share your insights. This shared time can spark powerful discussions & help build a strong foundation of faith in your family. Along with the daily devotion, at the end of this document are the discussion questions that were covered in small group time to help you break down topics on a deeper level.*

*Thank you for partnering with us in guiding our youth toward a deeper relationship with  
Dylan & Faith Curtis*

## **Day 1:** The Call to Serve

**Scripture:** Philippians 2:3-4

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

### **Reflection:**

Today's world often pushes us to think about ourselves—our needs, our wants, our preferences. However, the Bible calls us to something radically different: humility and service. Serving others may not come naturally, but it is essential for becoming more like Jesus. When we serve, we step outside of our selfish nature and begin to live like Christ, who made Himself nothing to serve us.

### **Question for Reflection:**

What is one way you can put others ahead of yourself today, even if it feels uncomfortable or unnatural?

### **Prayer:**

Lord, help me to focus on others today. Teach me to lay aside my own interests and serve those around me with a willing heart, just as You have served me.

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## Day 2: Serving as a Spiritual Discipline

**Scripture:** Romans 12:1

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship."

### Reflection:

Serving is not just an action—it is a spiritual discipline that brings us closer to God. Just like prayer or reading Scripture, serving others regularly helps form us into the likeness of Christ. It may not always feel easy, but it is a crucial part of our spiritual growth.

When we serve others, we offer our everyday lives as an act of worship to God.

### Question for Reflection:

How can you make serving others a regular part of your relationship with God, rather than something you do only occasionally?

### Prayer:

Lord, I want my life to be a living sacrifice, pleasing to You. Show me how to serve in a way that honors You, and help me see service as part of my worship and walk with You.

## Day 3: Overcoming Selfishness

**Scripture:** Mark 10:45

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

### Reflection:

Selfishness comes naturally to us, but Jesus showed us a different way. Even though He had every right to be served, He chose instead to serve others—even to the point of giving His life on the cross. In a world that constantly pushes us to think about ourselves, we are called to follow Jesus' example by serving with humility and love, without seeking anything in return.

### Question for Reflection:

What areas of your life do you struggle with selfishness? How can you begin to serve others in those areas instead?

### Prayer:

Lord, I confess that I often focus too much on my own desires. Help me to follow Your example and lay aside my selfishness so that I can love and serve others like You did.

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**Day 4:** The Power of Humility

**Scripture:** Philippians 2:5-7

"In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant."

**Reflection:**

True humility is not about thinking less of yourself but thinking of yourself less. Jesus, though He was God, humbled Himself and took on the role of a servant. Humility means recognizing our value as God's creation while also placing the needs and interests of others ahead of our own. It's about imitating Christ's attitude of serving others without seeking recognition or reward.

**Question for Reflection:**

How can you practice humility in your daily interactions? What would it look like for you to put others first in a specific situation today?

**Prayer:**

Lord, give me the mindset of Christ. Help me to see others the way You do, and grant me the humility to serve them without expecting anything in return.

**Day 5:** Love Through Service

**Scripture:** John 13:14-15

"Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you."

**Reflection:**

Jesus demonstrated love through service, even performing the lowly task of washing His disciples' feet. This act of humility was a powerful reminder that love is not just words or feelings, but action. We are called to show our love for others by serving them, just as Christ served us. When we serve others with humility, we reflect the love of Christ to the world around us.

**Question for Reflection:**

Who in your life needs to experience God's love through your service? How can you take a step to serve them this week?

**Prayer:**

Lord, thank You for setting an example of love through service. Help me to serve others with the same love and humility that You have shown me, and use my actions to draw others closer to You.

# Discussion Questions:

## Loving all people

### 1. Understanding Service

- What does it mean that serving is a "spiritual discipline"? Why is it necessary for deepening your relationship with Jesus?
- The sermon mentions that serving doesn't come naturally, but selfishness does. Why do you think selfishness is our default behavior? How can we combat that in everyday life?

### 2. Selfishness and Culture

- How does our culture, especially through social media, promote selfishness? Can you think of examples in your own life where social media has influenced you to focus more on yourself?
- "Death by selfie." What do you think this says about the extreme lengths people go for attention and validation? How does this relate to the idea of serving others?

### 3. Serving vs. Consuming

- The sermon compares the act of consuming without serving to taking in calories without exercising. How does this metaphor resonate with your spiritual life? Have you ever felt "spiritually stuck" because you were not serving?
- How can serving help us grow closer to God and become more like Jesus?

### 4. Humility and Jesus' Example

- Philippians 2:1-8 highlights Jesus' humility and His choice to serve others. How does Jesus' example of humility challenge our natural desire for recognition and praise?
- We defined humility as "not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less." How does this definition shape the way you understand humility in your life?

### 5. Practical Application

- The sermon encourages us to find simple ways to serve, like writing a letter to a neighbor or holding the door for someone. What are some small, everyday ways you can begin serving others?
- How can you serve in your church, school, or community? What are some practical steps you can take to put your faith into action?

### 6. Love Through Service

- The sermon emphasizes that serving others is the best way to love them. How does serving someone show them the love of Christ more powerfully than words alone?
- What are some obstacles that prevent you from serving others? How can you overcome those barriers?

### 7. Sacrifice in Serving

- The sermon asks if we are willing to serve and love others at all costs, just as Jesus did when He died on the cross. What does it mean to you to "pick up your cross" and follow Jesus in serving others, even when it's hard?
- Are there times when serving others feels too difficult or inconvenient? How can we learn to serve with a heart like Jesus, even in those moments?

### 8. Personal Reflection

- What area of your life are you most selfish with, as mentioned in the sermon? How can you start thinking of others in that area instead of yourself?
- Have you ever experienced a situation where serving others changed your perspective or brought you closer to God? Share your experience with the group.