Life Team week of 11/13 – LIFT – 3rd John

**Hang**

* Is there ever a problem with wanting to be first?
* When is it not healthy?
* Have you ever known someone who likes to be first – or think too highly of themselves? What are they like?

**Highlight**

* Was there anything that caught your attention or stood out to you from Sunday?
* Sunday, we studied 3rd John – we want to focus on one part of that tonight.

**3 John 1:9-10**

In 3 John 1:9, John specifically points out a church leader named Diotrephes as someone who “loves to be first.” While Diotrephes was in ministry, it was obvious his motive was for his own benefit.

* Have you ever known a leader, pastor or boss like that?
* Why do you think people still follow them?
* Would you agree or disagree that we live in a “me” generation? Why or why not? If yes, can you give an example?
* Do you ever see this attitude in churches too? How?

Jesus gave us a completely different example of what it means to be a leader, by putting other’s first.

**The Greatest in God’s sight are…**

**Matthew 18:1-5**

* The friends / disciples of Jesus want to know who the greatest is. Why do you think being like a child has anything to do with it?
* What is the humbling status of a child? (low status – or attention)

1. **Those who realize they have a lot to learn**

Humbly realizing – you are weak in our own power and in need

* How good are you at receiving instruction from others?
* Are you a know it all?

1. **The greatest in God’s sight are those who are humbly honest**

Children are not good at lying. They quickly come clean. Children do not try to be humble, they are so. They are innocent and transparent.

* How quick are you at being honest? Do you tend to cover up of hide your mistakes?

**Mark 9:33-37**

1. **Those who put others before themselves**

* Is it easy to put others first? Why or why not?
* What are some ways we can put others before ourselves?

**Mark 10:35-40**

1. **Those who give their life for another**

John 15:13-Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

* What do you think Jesus means and what does it look like?

**Mark 10:41-45, Matthew 20:26, 23:11**

1. **Those who faithfully serve others**

* When Jesus talks about serving others, what do you think that means?
* How can we do this in our daily life and church life?

**Luke 22:24-26**

1. **Those who do not seek to control people**

* This referring to those who want positions because they like to have power over people. How can a leader serve others rather than boss them around?

**Luke 22:24-27**

1. **Those who cares for others needs above their own**

* How can we do this with our family – friends – strangers?

**Philippians 2:3-8**

* What does Jesus tell us true greatness is? (Putting others first)
* How does this differ from your ideas or the worlds values of greatness?

**Huddle**

* Break into groups and discuss ways you can better reflect Jesus when we are with others. Focus on how to put others first before ourselves.
* Pray for prayer requests.

**Home**

* Take some time and evaluate the various contexts where you may have leadership influence (work, school, home, friendships). Do you have any tendencies that resemble Diotrephes’ (loves to be first) leadership style?

Read **Philippians 2:3-8** again.

* How do you reflect Jesus’ leadership style?

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Matthew 18:1-5, Mark 9:33-37, Mark 10:35-45, Matthew 20:26, 23:11

Luke 22:24-26, Philippians 2:3-8, John 15:13

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3. **Those who put others \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
4. **Those who give their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
5. **Those who faithfully \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
6. **Those who do not seek to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
7. **Those who cares \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ above their own**

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