

In the Flesh – John 13
February 25 | Group Discussion Guide

Begin with an opening question, a Scripture reading, and prayer (15 minutes).

Can you recall a time you were served by someone in a deeply meaningful way? Explain.

Next, read John 13:1-30.

After reading, have someone pray for your time together.

Transition into a discussion about serving and John 13 (25 minutes).

- What from either the passage of John 13 or Dan's sermon on John 13 deepened your faith, challenged you personally, or resonated?
- How do you serve with humility when you have to do something that you do not want to do?
- Reflect on Jesus' washing the feet of not only his friends, but also his enemy (Judas). Think on the different people in your life. Are there people you find it easy to serve? Are there people you find it more difficult to serve? Explain.
- In Dan's sermon, he called us to carry a mindset of servant-heartedness both to emulate Jesus and so that people will see Jesus in us. Think through how you go about each day (at work, at home, etc.). Do you carry a servant-hearted mindset in every situation? If not, what other mindsets do you sometimes have? What prevents you from serving like Jesus in any and every situation? List some things out.

• Read Mark 10:45. What can you do to help cultivate an "I am not here to be served but to serve" kind of mindset? How might Jesus' ultimate example of serving you via the cross and the Holy Spirit in your life give you the power to serve others?

Spend some time with this prayer of humility (10 minutes).

Spend a few moments looking over this prayer of humility individually. Read each line slowly. Are there any lines that feel especially hard for you to pray right now? Which one? What might be preventing you from praying it wholeheartedly?

O Jesus! meek and humble of heart, Hear me.

From the desire of being esteemed, deliver me, Jesus.

From the desire of being loved...

From the desire of being extolled...

From the desire of being honored...

From the desire of being praised...

From the desire of being preferred to others...

From the desire of being consulted...

From the desire of being approved...

From the fear of being humiliated...

From the fear of being despised...

From the fear of suffering rebukes...

From the fear of being slandered...

From the fear of being forgotten...

From the fear of being ridiculed...

From the fear of being wronged...

From the fear of being suspected...

That others may be loved more than I...Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be esteemed more than I...

That, in the opinion of the world, others may increase and I may decrease...

That others may be chosen and I set aside...

That others may be praised and I unnoticed...

That others may be preferred to me in everything..

That others may become holier than I, provided that I may become as holy as I should...

Amen.

Come back together to talk about your time with that prayer (10 minutes).

- Were there any parts of that prayer that were difficult to pray? Which part(s)?
- Where do you sense you need to grow in humility and servant-heartedness right now?
- Take a few moments to think through the people in your life. Is there anyone you feel especially called to serve in some small way this week?

Finish with logistics and prayer requests (5 minutes).

- 1. **Inform your group** about the study material available to help you walk through gospel of John series! You can find those devotionals at thecreek.org/devotionals.
- 2. **Sign up for Life Group Vision Nights!** All life groups of The Creek are invited to an evening of worship, prayer, and vision casting! With more than 1000 people in life groups, these nights are opportunities for groups to come together and renew their covenants and refresh their commitment to one another.

Pick one night between Monday, March 4-Thursday, March 7 to attend with your life group. Each night will be 7-8:30pm in the Worship Center.

The same experience will be offered for all four nights, so choose *one night* that works best for you and your entire life group to attend together.

Register <u>HERE</u> to attend.

3. Finish your group session by sharing prayer requests and praying.