

What we are for reveals who we are.

SERIES BIG IDEA:

We are forgiven so we can be given for Jesus, for His church, and for our cities.

²⁰"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Peter answered, "God's Messiah."

²¹Jesus strictly warned them not to tell this to anyone. ²²And he said, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life."

²³Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. ²⁴For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. ²⁵What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self? ²⁶Whoever is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. Luke 9:20-26 (NIV)

 25 Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: 26 "If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple. 27 And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:25-27 (NIV)

To be for Jesus, I must accept that <u>Jesus</u> is <u>Lord</u>.

We cannot accept Jesus as <u>Savior</u> without Him being our <u>Lord</u>.

In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples. Luke 14:33 (NIV)

To accept God's gift of salvation is to give our lives for Jesus.

³Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. John 13:3-5 (NIV)

¹²When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. ¹³"You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. John 13:12-15 (NIV)

Knowing who we are reveals what we do.

TEACHING BIG IDEA:

We are given for <u>Jesus</u> and that means we are given for <u>each other</u>.

Jesus is Lord; therefore, I serve.



Our value is not in what we <u>do</u> but what's been <u>done</u> for us.

³⁴ "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34-35 (NIV)

We are <u>commanded</u> to show others their value and love them the way <u>Jesus</u> has loved us.

MY NOTES:



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TEACHING SUMMARY:

Have you ever been for something in such a profound way that it seems to drown out the rest of your world? What was that like? Did it affect everything else in your life? How?

What we are for reveals who we are. Jesus calls us to be for Him and so much for Him that we hold nothing back.

Jesus was so for us that He gave up everything to create a way to a relationship with Him and we are called to deny ourselves and give up everything to not only be with Jesus but to be like Jesus.

As we give up ourselves for Jesus and take on His way of living, we will find that we are also to sacrificially love and serve one another.

Jesus gave himself so we can be forgiven and in response to His sacrifice we, if committed to Him, will give of ourselves to others out of the love of Christ that has been poured into our lives.

Are you for Jesus? Are you for Him in every part of your life? Does your service of others show it?

TALK IT OVER:

What areas of your life are the most difficult to give over to Jesus completely?

What barriers have you encountered in denying yourself completely or accepting Jesus as not only Savior but also as Lord?

How could you step out and serve others out of the overflow of God's love in your life? What is stopping you?

What is one next step you can take today?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

Mon:	John 1:41; John 17:1-5 (Christ: the anointed one) NIV
Tue:	Matthew 11: 27; Luke 2:8-11; John 3:35-36 NIV
Wed:	Matthew 7:21-23 NLT

- Thu: Matthew 10:32; Matthew 16:24-25 AMP
- Fri: John 10:14-16; John 10:24-30 NIV
- Sat: Matthew 25:31-46 NIV