

RE: SOLUTION

Community Group Discussion Guide

January 1st, 2017

Re:Solution
Mark 10:35-45

Introduction: For all intents and purposes, January is the month for self-improvement. It's a time to reflect, refocus, and restart. Because of this, the new year is typically a season of self-absorption. It's all about what we can do to make ourselves better people. The result is that churches, health clubs, debt counselors, and vitamin shops do a booming business. But what if we asked ourselves a better question. Rather than ask, "What needs to be done *about* me?", what if we asked, "What needs to be done *around* me?" But there's a cost to that question. What if we don't want to give up some "life"? But, as we'll see, Jesus said that the only way to live a life of purpose and meaning is to give our lives away.

Discussion Questions:

1. Have you set any New Year's resolutions this year? If so, what are they?
2. Why do you think New Year's resolutions don't typically stick for most people?
3. How would you define "greatness"?
4. When it comes to "getting to the top" in this world, what's the "upside down" rule of greatness in the Kingdom of God according to Mark 10:42-44? Do you believe this is true?
5. **Have someone read Mark 10:45.** How did Jesus come to "ransom" us? What does that mean for us?
6. How much did God pay to "buy us back" as it were? Should that change our perspective on giving ourselves to serve others?
7. Why can "being a servant" sometimes be hard in our world today?
8. How can we look at servanthood with dignity, respect, and even excitement, more than with grumpiness?
9. **NEXT STEP:** What breaks your heart? What needs to change in your community? What can you do? Who can you partner with? Jesus invites you to a life of purpose. Among your other New Year's resolutions, devote yourself to serving others more in 2017.