

# Life Together

Week 4 - Ministry

**ASK:**

Think about the most godly people that you know...What is a major characteristic they portray in their life?

Now think about a time you saw division among a church...What characteristic can be said of those that participated in this division?

**Read:**

**"Self justification and judging others go together, as justification by grace and serving others go together."**

**Bonheoffer**

**When humans get together it never fails that there is the temptation for selfishness in the form of jealousy, bitterness, arrogance, etc.**

# Life Together

Week 4 - Ministry

## ASK:

**Think about the times you have probably been the most critical about things in life or about others...Especially of spouses and fellow believers.**

**Do you feel like in those times, you were seeking Christ in your personal life as you should?**

**As believers we are ALL in ministry. If we think we are not then we do not understand the Great Commission given in Matthew 28.**

## SAY

**As disciples of Christ our ministry to others MUST start with humility in the areas of:**

- Our speech
- Our meekness
- Our listening
- Our service

# Life Together

Week 4 - Ministry

## SPEECH

“Often we combat our evil thoughts most effectively if we absolutely refuse to allow them to be expressed in words (91).”

## Read

### Ask someone to Read James 3: 1-12

Think about a time in your life that someone has talked about you negatively or maybe said something hurtful to your face.

## ASK

Ask how difficult is it to process those words or to forgive those that say those difficult things?

# Life Together

## Week 4 - Ministry

**When we talk about others and judge the non-essential things they do we are proclaiming that we would have created them better than God.**

**SAY**

**As leaders we MUST understand that as much as the weak need the strong, the strong MUST NEED the weak.**

**Do we make it a habit to watch what we say and use our speech to encourage, love, and speak truth in gentleness?**

**Meekness**

**Read**

**Have someone read Romans 12:3 and 16**

**Ask: What does it mean to be meek?**

# Life Together

## Week 4 - Ministry

### Meekness is NOT Weakness

- Meekness leads but listens
- Meekness is sound in judgement but slow to speak
- Meekness embraces conflict but without anger

— “ “ —  
"Meekness has nothing to do with being weak or passive. Meekness is power harnessed by love"  
— Dave Harvey —

LifeGroups  
Gospel Community for Missional Connection

**SAY**

- Was it weak that Christ knew from day 1 what his life would end in and did it anyway?
- Was it weak that despite Paul understanding that he would most likely die for his faith and kept fighting the fight?
- There is more power on display and more leadership on display when people know that the outcome may not go their way and yet follow in the Lord's leading!

# Life Together

Week 4 - Ministry

## Listening

**ASK**

- Are you a good listener?
- How is being a good listener reflect our maturity as disciples of Christ?
- Have you had a conversation with a person that seemed distracted or interrupted you every second? How did that make you feel?

**If we are not able to remove our need to be heard and the need to lead a conversation, we are giving others a glimpse of what our relationship with Christ is like...**

**"Just as love to God begins with listening to His Word, so the beginning of love for the brethren is learning to listen to them (97)."**

# Life Together

Week 4 - Ministry

## Helpfulness

**Read**

**Ask someone in the group to read Luke 10:25-37, The Story of the Good Samaritan**

**One of the best examples of the being a godly helper**

- **Made himself available**
- **Used his talents in tending to the man's wounds**
- **Used his resources (money) to take care of the man's fiscal needs**
- **Returned to check on the man**

**This is a picture of discipleship**

**"We must be ready to allow ourselves to be interrupted by God. God will be constantly crossing our paths and canceling our plans by sending us people with claims and petitions" (99).**

**SAY**