

Real.Life.Journey – Week 4: SHINING LIKE STARS

1) Did you memorize Philippians 2:3? Have someone in your group recite it from memory. Was this difficult? What was different, in you, this past week because you committed this to memory?

2) How have your thoughts and attitudes about humility changed this past week? What examples from this past week have been concrete examples of setting your needs aside for the needs of other? What situations were opportunities to set your needs aside but you chose not to?

Read Philippians 2:12-30

3) Using the following descriptions, where are you on your Faith Journey with respect to humility?
Why did you rate yourself that way?

- **Come & See** - My own needs are the only ones that matter; if I am even aware that other people have needs, they are no concern of mine; Looking at my checkbook and calendar, everything points to "looking to my own needs." I am a grumbler, because my needs are not being fully met.
- **Come & Follow** – Like Epaphroditus; willing to be the messenger for the Philippians and for Paul; I am becoming increasingly aware of the needs of others, and it "bothers me." Looking at my checkbook and calendar, I am starting to shift my priorities to others. When the opportunities come up, I step up to meet the needs of others. I am complaining and grumbling less about my own needs.
- **Come & Surrender** – Like Timothy; looking only to the interests of Christ as it relates to Paul and others; I am aware of the needs of others and am actively engaged in activities that make that a priority. I am actively searching out to discover the needs of others. My needs are secondary, and I rarely grumble and complain when they are not being met.
- **Go & Multiply** – Like Paul; rejoicing in the face of death knowing that the Philippians are thriving; My whole life is dedicated to meeting the needs of others; it consumes everything I do and think about. I have made major life rearrangements to center my life on the needs of others and the priorities of Christ.

4) Based on your answers to the question above, what is one concrete step you could take to move ahead in your Faith Journey? Whose needs do you need to make a priority? How do you need to rearrange your life to make that a tangible reality?

5) What could you do as a group to put a priority on the real needs of others in this community?

6) Read aloud together Philippians 2:14-15, and make a commitment to memorize this verse before the next time you meet:

***Do everything without complaining or arguing,
so that you may become blameless and pure,
children of God without fault
in a crooked and depraved generation,
in which you shine like stars in the universe...***

(Spend some time in prayer for one another)