

MAIN POINT

*As followers of Christ, we are called to be for others, for God, and for ourselves.*

INTRODUCTION

What is something that others would say they know you are for?

Would you say you are known more by what you are for, or what you are against? Why?

We live in a time when it is often easier to know what a person is against, rather than what they are for. With the rise of social media, everyone has been given an unfiltered means of sharing what they are for and against. Unfortunately, it seems easier for us to speak against things, instead of speaking positively about people and things to the same degree. As followers of Jesus, we are called to be for others, for God, and for ourselves. If we truly lived this way, we would shine as the light of the world Jesus called us to be in Matthew 5:14-16.

DISCUSSION

> **READ JOHN 13:34-35, MATTHEW 25:35-36,40, AND 16:25.**

How does John 13:34-35 speak to the need for us to be for others?

What are some other passages in the Bible that speak to the need for God’s people to be for others?

According to these verses, how does our being for others give evidence that we are truly disciples of Jesus?

By this standard, what evidence is your life giving of your discipleship?

How does Matthew 25 help you make the connection between being for God and being for others?

Reflecting on Matthew 25, what are some less than obvious ways we might show that we are for God in our daily lives?

How does our being for others help them to see the goodness of God? How are we living for God when we point others to Him?

How does Matthew 16:25 help you understand that by being for God and for others, you can also be for yourself?

How is this counterintuitive to the thinking of the world?

When have you experienced personal blessings through serving God and others?

APPLICATION

How has God spoken to you today about being for others, for Him, and for yourself? How do you need to respond? How will you participate in the upcoming SERVE week at c|Life?