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Table Talk: Family Devotions

Resources for Ministry

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020. Not to be served, but to serve

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TABLE TALK

Not to be served, but to serve

Prepare:

As one person lights a candle, the family reads together: (based on Philippians 2)

C: Let us have this mind among ourselves, which is ours in Christ Jesus

R: who did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped

C: but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant

R: becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Read: Mark 10:32-45 (ESV)

32 And they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them. And they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. And taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him, 33 saying, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles. 34 And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will rise."

35 And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." 36 And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" 37 And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." 38 Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" 39 And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, 40 but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." 41 And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. 42 And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. 43 But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. 45 For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Reflect:

Two of the disciples came to Jesus seeking honor. They found that even he, "came not to be served but to serve." Jesus calls us to put aside our pride and humble ourselves to a life of service as we follow him.

Take a moment to talk about what this passage (Mark 10: 32-45) means for you as a family.

Now share with one another one thing you can do differently as a member of your family.

Pray:

The head of the household prays:

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of your son. His ransom brings life to us. Let your Holy Spirit guide us so that we too may be servants. In Jesus's name, amen.