

## COMMUNITY GROUP - QUESTIONS ONLY

Fall 2024 - Salty Church - "Freedom to Serve"

Monday, Oct. 14 - Sunday, Oct. 20 (Week 6)

*In this sermon titled, "Freedom to Serve" Pastor McKinney emphasizes the need for Christians to embody the "saltiness" that Jesus spoke of, which reflects a life filled with His presence and love. The main focus of the message is on the idea that true greatness in the kingdom of God is found in servanthood. Drawing from Mark chapter ten, Pastor Mike discusses a conversation between Jesus and His disciples, where two of them, James and John, ask for positions of honor. Jesus uses this request to illustrate the contrast between worldly views of power and the kingdom's call to service. He teaches that to be great, one must become a servant and that true leadership in the church requires humility and the willingness to put others first. Additionally, Pastor McKinney reinforces that freedom to serve comes not just from having time, but from a heart liberated from self-interest. He argues that self-centeredness is the greatest obstacle to effective service and reminds us that the essence of Jesus' mission was to serve others and give His life. The sermon concludes with an invitation to evaluate our own life and consider how we might lay down personal interests to serve those around us, echoing Jesus' model of self-giving love.*

**QUESTION #1:** How does the concept of "freedom to serve" differ from simply having free time to serve? What does it mean to have a "freed heart" to serve?

**QUESTION #2:** In what areas of your life do you find it challenging to serve others? What might be holding you back from serving more freely?

**QUESTION #3:** How does the seesaw analogy of honoring Jesus by going down so He can go up resonate with you? Can you identify areas in your life where you might be trying to lift yourself up instead?

**QUESTION #4:** How do you reconcile the desire for greatness with the call to serve? How can you pursue true greatness in the kingdom of God?

**QUESTION #5:** What is one practical step you can take this week to serve someone in your community or church? How can you ensure that this act of service is about lifting Jesus up rather than yourself?

**QUESTION #6:** How can this group support each other in becoming more freed to serve? Is there a specific area where you would like prayer or accountability?