

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Session 4: Go Be The Church—Ministry and Mission (Week 4, October 30–November 5)

GROUP DISCUSSION

Pastor Stan and Pastor Justin talked about the difference between ministry and missions. Discuss some of the ways Emmanuel:

- Serves within the church family (Parking Team, greeters, Coffee Bar Team, AV Team, Emmanuel Kids Team, Connection Groups, etc.)—Ministry
- Serves through the church in the community (Night to Shine, Graffiti Church, Agape Praise Fellowship/Baltimore Church Plants, Celebrate Recovery, Food Pantry, etc.)—Missions

Read 1 John 3:1–2. We are loved by God and we are His children—that makes us family. What is one way you are serving right now? What motivates you to serve in this capacity?

First Corinthians 12:27 teaches us that we are “part” of the body of Christ. What part do you play in the church family?

What prevents us from doing our part in the ministry of the church?

Discuss the four expectations of Emmanuel members as outlined in First Base. How do meeting these basic expectations help me serve my church family and strengthen the church?

- Attend weekly
- Serve as gifted and where needed
- Grow in my relationship with God and others through group participation
- Give in a God-honoring way to the general offering (which supports every Emmanuel ministry)
 - Systematically—weekly, bi-weekly, monthly
 - Proportionally—according to the level of your income
 - Sacrificially—in response to God’s sacrifice for me

Christine shared how the Special Needs Ministry meets the needs of those often neglected and forgotten. This is a mission that serves through the church and in the community. How can you share your SHAPE—**S**piritual gifts, **H**ear (passions), **A**bilities, **P**ersonality, and **L**ife **E**xperiences—to make help make this ministry stronger? Are there other forgotten communities we can serve?

Marc mentioned he serves on the Parking Team alongside his sons. What can we do to include the next generation in service and leadership opportunities?

What is your ministry and mission that pleases God most? Read Hebrews 13:16.

WEEKLY BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it. 1 Corinthians 12:27 NLT

PRAYER FOCUS

God, what are you calling me to do in the church to serve my family and through the church to serve my community?