

Listen (Philippians 2:1-11)

WARMUP (*Choose one. They will make sense once you hear the sermon*):

- *What kind of jelly do you like on your PB&J? When did you first start liking that kind of jelly?*
OR
- *What's your strategy when you go grocery shopping?*

FROM THE SERMON

- Peter Nittler said, "*listening* has the power to enrich your life, bless your neighbors, and change the world." Are there ways you've experienced this to be true?
- As a group, come up with five pairs of "shallow" and "middletalk" questions.
For example, (shallow) *Where are you from?* - (middletalk) *What restaurant do you miss?*
(shallow) *What do you do?* - (middletalk) *What do you love about it?*

FROM THE BOOK (chapter 4 of the BLESS book)

- Why do we have such a difficult time truly listening to the people around us?
- Share your thoughts about this question with the person next to you: when was the last time you truly felt listened to? What was so special about that experience?
- What else did you appreciate or disagree with from the book?

FROM THE SCRIPTURE

Ask someone to read Philippians 2:1-11 aloud

- How many things can your group list that Jesus set aside in order to be born into our world and live the life He lived on earth?
- What does the scripture say about why Jesus did this?
- Re-read verses 3-5. How do these verses shape our interactions with our neighbors?

Do you sense the Holy Spirit speaking to you about anything else in the sermon, book, or scripture passage? It could be a question you have, or something that got your attention, or a point you are pondering...

RESPONSE

- What is one next step that you think God is inviting you to take this week? Ask God to give you the strength/courage/faith to take that step!
- Pray that God will give you opportunities to listen to your neighbors, ask them questions, and interact with them with the humble love of Jesus.
- How will your Life Group encourage one another in praying and listening to your neighbors this week?

"To transform religious and irreligious people into Fully Devoted Followers of Christ."