

**TALK IT OVER , B.L.E.S.S. – JUNE 11, 2017 - SERVE**

**Series Big Idea:** God has blessed me so I can bless people where I live, work, and play.

**Teaching Big Idea:** In order to BLESS, I will serve others more by thinking of myself less.

**Begin in Prayer:** Ask God for wisdom to know how to think more like Jesus.

**Talk it over:**

Ice Breaker: What are some popular phrases in American culture that communicate a self-focused attitude?

Scripture:

3Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4not looking to your own interests, but each of you to the interests of the others. 5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

Philippians 2:3-5 (NIV)

Questions:

Who are the ‘others’ where you live, work, and play?

What might it look like to serve them “out of selfish ambition”?

Come up with some practical ways people could check their motives for serving.

Scripture:

6Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God as something to be used to his own advantage; 7rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. Philippians 2:6-7 (NIV)

Questions:

What are some temptations that might come with having a title?

Make a case for the following: A title is an opportunity to serve. Support your position with examples.

How do you feel when you hear the word, “sacrifice”? What words come to mind?

Challenge: Look for opportunities to practice: sacrifice isn’t a loss, it’s an investment. Commit to acting on what you find.

Conclude in Prayer: Seek God’s help to serve others more and think of yourself less in the coming week.