

the Venues

Go Deep

The Win #2

January 18, 2015

What brought you to The Venues and what made you come back?

The first win for The Venues is: When a regular attendee brings an unchurched/dechurched friend who decides to return.

The second win is: When people are actively serving inside or outside the church.

Are you a “what if” type of person or a “what is” type of person?

“What if” – a phrase of possibility. “What is” – a phrase of reality.

Martin Luther King Jr. said, “Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?’”

In what way do you see this as a “persistent” question?

Why is the question so urgent?

1. Sent to be a blessing. Genesis 12:1-2

What observations do you make about these verses?

The teaching made two:

- a. God calls us to get out of our comfort zone.
- b. God calls us to be a blessing to people.

What is there about serving that pushes us out of our comfort zone?

Define blessing. What images does that word conjure up in your mind?

Do people see you as a walking, breathing, living source of blessing?

2. Serve to be healthy.

Read Psalm 41:1; Proverbs 11:17; Proverbs 11:25

How can serving others be a benefit to ourselves?

In what ways have you seen benefits for yourself?

3. Serve to be like Jesus.

Read Matthew 20:28; John 13:12-17

If we follow Jesus, if we take our cues from Him, how should we be interacting with people?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-17

What does Paul say is his motivation to serve?

How do you see love as Jesus' motivation for serving?

Martin Luther King Jr. said, "Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

Is it fair to make serving a measurement of our love?

Read Luke 22:25-27

How does Jesus turn "greatness" upside down?

We're not just loving like Jesus. We're loving Jesus.
Read Matthew 25:40

How would seeing Jesus in people change your response to them?

Read John 9:4

Martin Luther King Jr. said, "Now is the time to open the doors of opportunity to all of God's children. Now is the time to lift our nation from the quick sands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood."

How can we be more aware of opportunities to serve?

4. Serve to bring peace.

Read 1 Peter 2:21-23; 2 Corinthians 5:18-20

Andrew Luck, QB for the Indianapolis Colts has become famous for congratulating any player who hits him – "Great job! What a hit!"

Players don't know what to do with it.

Read Romans 12:20-21

How would acts of service, expressions of kindness bring peace to hostile situations?

How satisfied are you with the serving you are providing at home, at work, at church in the community?

Are there any changes you think you need to make to become more of a servant?