

Dec. 6-12

Central Community Church Spiritual Growth Ministries



## Small Group Guide: ***SERVE!***

### OPEN IN PRAYER

#### Read John 3:16

This passage reminds us that the church building is not the center of God's mission, the **world** is. The focus of the church is not itself. Whenever the church is in the world, God is in the church. Whenever the church is not in the world, God is not in the church. Pastor and author Kennon L. Callhan has these strong words: *"We have loved our local churches too much. They will come and go, rise and fall, grow and die. What endures is the mission of God. God calls your church to mission! God calls your church not to be the center of people's lives, rather to be in the center of their lives."*

- How can your group better take the love and hope of Christ into the world? What is something that you can collectively do to reach and serve others?

#### Read Matthew 16:24-25

What is a life of service? It's serving people in the midst of their human hurt and hopes. It is only as we make ourselves available to God that we discover God's design and plan for our lives.

- Why is service such an essential part of every small group? (As important as fellowship, etc.)
- How can your small group better encourage one another to a life of service?

#### Read Matthew 20:25-28

Service opens the doors of our minds to the mind of Christ. King David thought of himself as a servant of God, and no more; Mary thought of herself as a servant of God, and no more; Paul thought of himself as a servant of Christ, and no more; Even Jesus thought of himself as a servant. What about you? Are you a servant?

- How can your group specifically engage in service during this Christmas season?

*Heavenly Father, we pray that you would open our hearts, minds,  
and lives to receive what you have for us,  
mold our hearts into servant's hearts this day.*