

# DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

## Satisfied in Self "Satisfied" Series

November 25/26, 2017

**Note: This Weekend is the LAST weekend we are providing Discovery Questions for 2017 as we anticipate many groups will begin to wind down for the Christmas season. Consider meeting one time in December for a Life Group Dinner / Christmas Party. We'll resume Discovery Questions again for our first full sermon series in January of 2018.**

Main Idea:

*Satisfaction is not found in self-promotion, but in serving one another.*

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### Discovery Questions

1. Has there ever been a time when someone else got what you thought you deserved? Describe that situation to your group. How did you navigate through that time?

This week, we finish our November series entitled "Satisfied." This series is based on the idea that God wants us to be satisfied and fulfilled in this life, but the route God suggests we take to find satisfaction is often very different than the route the world offers.

In our last message of this series, we'll look at an incident near the end of Jesus' ministry and a very selfish request made by two of Jesus' disciples. Through Jesus' response to their request, we learn something important about discipleship and following Jesus in the Kingdom of God.

2. Read Mark 10:35-44. How does Jesus respond to the request of James and John? What lessons does Jesus teach in his response?

3.
  - a. What do people today think will make them "great" in this world?
  - b. Even today, people have a tendency to look down on those in the service industry (think house cleaners, janitorial staff, etc.). Why do you think that is?
  - c. Who is someone you know that has a real servant's heart? What is it about their example that stands out to you?
4.
  - a. How easy is it for you to serve others in this world? What makes you answer the way you do?
  - b. What gets in the way of a regular lifestyle of serving for you? (What makes serving hard?)
  - c. Who in your life needs to be served in the way Jesus talks about in this passage? What can you do this week to serve them?

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5. This weekend we talked about the need we have at our church for people to help serve in our various ministries. We also talked about an immediate need to serve at our Christmas Eve services. Discuss with your group the possibility of serving together as a group in one of our various ministry areas. What would that look like? What would get in the way of serving?

*Leader Guide Starts on Next Page*

# DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

## Leader Guide

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**1. Has there ever been a time when someone else got what you thought you deserved? Describe that situation to your group. How did you navigate through that time?**

*This is a “lighter” question designed to get the conversation going. Spend about 5-7 minutes on this question.*

**This week, we finish our November series entitled “Satisfied.” This series is based on the idea that God wants us to be satisfied and fulfilled in this life, but the route God suggests we take to find satisfaction is often very different than the route the world offers.**

**In our last message of this series, we’ll look at an incident near the end of Jesus’ ministry and a very selfish request made by two of Jesus’ disciples. Through Jesus’ response to their request, we learn something important about discipleship and following Jesus in the Kingdom of God.**

**2. Read Mark 10:35-44. How does Jesus respond to the request of James and John? What lessons does Jesus teach in his response?**

*James and John (and likely the rest of the disciples) believe that Jesus is going to be a “warrior” like Alexander the Great or Genghis Khan—that He’s going to march into Jerusalem and overthrow the Roman Empire and reestablish the Kingdom of Israel as the greatest nation the world has ever seen. James and John are asking for positions of greatness in this future Kingdom they believe Jesus is going to set up.*

*What the disciples don’t realize is that Jesus has not come to overthrow the Roman Empire, He’s come to overthrow the enemy of sin. This will not be done by force; it will be done through suffering and dying. And what Jesus makes clear to His disciples in this passage is that if they want to be thought of as “great,” it won’t happen through jockeying for positions of power or through shameless self-promotion, but instead through serving one another. As the supreme example of this, Jesus offers Himself—the only truly “great” One— who came not to promote Himself but to serve others.*

*Spend 5-7 minutes on this question.*

- 3. a. What do people today think will make them “great” in this world?**  
**b. Even today, people have a tendency to look down on those in the service industry (think house cleaners, janitorial staff, etc.). Why do you think that is?**  
**c. Who is someone you know that has a real servant’s heart? What is it about their example that stands out to you?**

*For part “a,” we saw this weekend that many people pursue celebrity/being famous—they want other people to think they’re as great as they think they, themselves, are. Other people pursue positions of honor, high achievements, etc. thinking these will bring “greatness.”*

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*For part “b,” it’s interesting that the higher up you make it into an organization, the less you have to do service-type jobs. There’s a feeling that people can work themselves out of having to serve. This is not the attitude that is to mark a disciple of Jesus.*

*Spend 7-10 minutes on this question in its entirety.*

4.
  - a. **How easy is it for you to serve others in this world? What makes you answer the way you do?**
  - b. **What gets in the way of a regular lifestyle of serving for you? (What makes serving hard?)**
  - c. **Who in your life needs to be served in the way Jesus talks about in this passage? What can you do this week to serve them?**

*For part “b,” we admit that sometimes serving others can be under-appreciated. That often doesn’t make us feel very good. But Jesus in this passage says nothing about serving for the sake of recognition; we serve simply because Jesus calls us to.*

*For part “c,” move people towards an action area—something very specific they can do to serve someone around them. Have them think of family members, schoolmates, people at work, people at the gym, people in the supermarket, etc.*

*Spend about 10-12 minutes on this question in its entirety.*

5. **This weekend, we talked about the need we have at our church for people to help serve in our various ministries. We also talked about an immediate need to serve at our Christmas Eve services. Discuss with your group the possibility of serving together, as a group, in one of our various ministry areas. What would that look like? What would get in the way of serving?**

*For Christmas Eve serve opportunities, refer people to [friends.church/christmas](https://www.friends.church/christmas).*

*For other, general serve opportunities at Friends, refer people to [friends.church/serve](https://www.friends.church/serve).*

*Spend 7-10 minutes on this question.*