

SKI JUMP

Discussion Notes

S IS FOR SACRIFICE

This week we started a new series about how we as a church are going to launch ourselves into the new 5pm Service in January 2020. You may want to take some time at some point in the discussion to gauge peoples' thoughts on this move, keeping the conversation positive whilst honest.

Philip said that sacrifice can be a scary idea.

- What do you think of when you hear the word sacrifice? Is it positive or negative?
- What is it about 'sacrifice' that scares us? i.e. that we don't have the resources to sacrifice, that we need to feel more secure first etc.

Philip said, "In God's Kingdom, sacrifice is the door that opens up the whole new world in following Jesus".

- What do you think Philip meant by this?

Read Mark 10:17-31 together.

Philip explained that in Jesus' response to the rich young ruler's question Jesus listed the 6 commandments about loving other people (with a few alterations thrown in there). However, it wasn't until after Jesus 'looked at him and loved him' that Jesus then challenges him to sacrifice everything and follow him.

- Jesus looked at the man with 'agape' love - a perfect, powerful love. Have you had an experience of God's love in this way?
- Jesus then challenges the young ruler to 'go sell everything and follow me'. Philip explained that 'Love leads us to sacrifice'. Where have you seen this to be true in your life?

The rich young ruler goes away disheartened and the disciples say that surely the challenge Jesus gives is impossible to meet. However, Jesus says "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."

- What difference would experiencing God's love make to how we sacrifice and love other people? What would this mean for how you show love in the context of Metro?

Philip explained that this sacrifice looks like cash and comfort. It's worth spending some time digging into what this sacrifice actually looks like. This might be where people have the most questions so you may want to focus significant time to asking these questions.

- How do you feel about sacrificing cash? What stops us?
- How might the 5pm service lead to discomfort? What does it practically look like for us to sacrifice our comfort to push forwards as a church? How can we support each other in this?

Finish your discussion by praying together and name the things we are willing to sacrifice. Pray that you can support each other and spur each other on. You might also want to pray for the blessing that Jesus promises us at the end of this passage, that each of us might experience that as well as we sacrifice.