

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE



**PRINCE
OF PEACE**
Called to Connect



Alive: Spirit of Service

July 16 & 17, 2022

The culture around us will constantly tempt us to move on up. But the Spirit of God leads us downward. Downward in humility. Downward in service. You won't find God at the top of the ladder. You'll find God by following the Spirit's call to descend. It happened to Jesus. It will happen to you, too, if you follow the Spirit's lead.

SCRIPTURE TEXT: MATTHEW 23:1-12

Read the scripture text together as a group.

BACKGROUND INFO

Today's scripture reading is a prime example of Jesus' counter-cultural teachings. And Jesus didn't just teach about humility and service, he modeled it for his followers.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Proverbs is filled with warnings for those who refuse to be humble. Read Proverbs 3:34, Proverbs 11:2, and Proverbs 18:12. Share about a time when pride brought disgrace in your life.
- We know from God's word that God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble. Read Proverbs 27:2. Heeding this advice, take turns sharing about how you have seen humility in or acts of service by someone in your group other than yourself.
- The Bible is full of stories about Jesus modeling humility and service. How many can you name? Which one is your favorite? What, specifically, have you learned about humble service through Jesus' example?
- If Jeff's sermon, he gave many examples of everyday opportunities to serve humbly beginning with: "If you listen to the Spirit, here's what will happen to you." (You can download the sermon at www.popmn.org/worship/downloads/ if you missed it or need a refresher.) What opportunities have you had recently to listen to the Spirit and move downward in humility or downward in service? Did you follow the Spirit's lead? What was the result?

APPLICATION: If you're hearing that call of the Spirit, but you aren't sure where or how you're being called to serve, Prince of Peace has many opportunities for you. Check out some of them at popmn.org/mission/volunteer/ or email Pastor Jason Kramme at jkramme@popmn.org and ask to be connected with a Connect Path Guide.