

# Elmbrook Discussion Questions

## Series: *Simple Living* *Community In Practice*

### Getting Started

1. What person comes to mind when you think of someone who serves others well? Why?

### Head: *What is the passage saying?*

Read aloud Mark 10:45

1. Why did Jesus (the Son of Man) come?
2. How does our serving imitate Jesus?

Read aloud Colossians 3:23-24

1. How does this passage help us understand when and how to live out a life of serving?
2. Why do we serve? Who do we serve? For what purpose?

Read aloud Ephesians 4:11-13

1. What does Paul (the author) want us to understand about our role in building up the body of Christ?
2. From this passage, what is the long term aim of living out this call to action?

### Heart: *How does this passage influence my inner being?*

1. How might God be calling you to serve?
  - a. What opportunities to serve are right in front of you (in the everyday rhythm of life) that God may be calling you to step into?
  - b. Are there further steps of service (with greater risk and more inconvenience) that God may be calling you to step into?
2. Serving unites us, matures us, and leads us into the fullness of Christ. Are you willing to step into the "fruitful life" of serving?

### Hands: *How do I practically live this out?*

*"A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject of all, subject to all."* Martin Luther, *The Freedom of a Christian*

Here are some suggestions, or identify your own practical next step.

1. **Serve:** Rather than overthink it, just serve someone. Be willing (and eager!) to respond to serve others, and simply meet practical needs.
2. **Commit:** Take a further step of service, and make a commitment to serve as a response to how God is speaking to you through this study. The body of Christ is built up through humble commitments of service.
3. **Talk It Out:** Share with someone about what God is teaching you about the practice of serving. Take a step to be less private about your faith. Perhaps this conversation may encourage, or spur them on.
4. **Memorize Scripture:** Commit the Scripture passages in this study to memory. Invite God to speak to you through these passages. Be open and ready to respond to what He has for you.