

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Opening Question

What does sacrifice mean to you, and can you share an example of a meaningful sacrifice you've made or witnessed?

Key Takeaways

- 1.) Sacrifice is a fundamental aspect of living a life shaped by the cross (cruciformed life).
- 2.) Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is the ultimate example of love and sacrifice for us to follow.
- 3.) Sacrifice for the kingdom may require prioritizing our relationship with God above all else.
- 4.) Sacrificial love involves standing by others through difficult times and putting their needs before our own.

Discussion Questions

- 1.) Pastor Zach mentions that sacrifice is "the genesis of life itself." How does this relate to our Christian faith and the concept of being "born again"?
- 2.) Reflect on Luke 14:25-27. How do you interpret Jesus' strong words about "hating" family to follow Him? What do you think He meant?
- 3.) The sermon shares a personal story about the pastor's mother sacrificing for her faith. Can you share an example from your own life or someone you know who has made significant sacrifices for their faith?
- 4.) How does our modern culture's emphasis on comfort and convenience challenge the idea of living a life of sacrifice?
- 5.) Pastor Zach states, "If it doesn't cost you everything, is it worth anything?" Do you agree or disagree? Why?
- 6.) In what ways can sacrificial love strengthen relationships within families, friendships, and the church community?

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Practical Application

- 1.) *Identify one area in your life where you can practice sacrificial love this week (e.g., with family, friends, or in your community).*
- 2.) *Evaluate your daily routines and habits. Is there something you need to "sacrifice" or change to prioritize your relationship with God?*
- 3.) *Consider ways you can support and stand by someone who is going through a difficult time, even if it's inconvenient or challenging for you.*
- 4.) *Reflect on any "distractions" in your life that may be hindering your relationships or spiritual growth. Make a plan to address one of these distractions.*

Closing Reflection

Lord, thank you for the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. Help us to embrace a life of sacrifice, putting Your kingdom and the needs of others before our own desires. Give us the strength and courage to live out our faith in tangible, sacrificial ways. Amen.