

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Do you love serving behind the scenes? Wish you could volunteer during the week in a way that instantly improves the overall image of Sandals? Do you love to work outside to clear your mind?

You can instantly improve the image of Sandals while serving God with your passion for cleanliness and landscaping!

We are looking for people who love to work with their hands, outside, for 30–45 minutes per week.

If you are interested in serving in this area, please send an email to pattyb@sandalschurch.com or debbiem@sandalschurch.com.

Message by Pastor Matt Brown
Discussion Guide by Small Groups Leadership Team

Get in the Game Got GAME?

Luke 5:1-11

DISCUSSION: Think about some people you know who are spiritual gamers. What do you admire about them? What is it about their life that is attractive to you?

1. Gamers will listen even when the play called for is gutsy.

(Jesus) said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered and said, "Master, we worked hard all night and caught nothing, but I will do as You say and let down the nets." Luke 5:4-5 NASB

DISCUSSION: When facing situations like Peter did, what are some of the excuses you make to not follow Jesus in what He has asked you to do? (ie: I'm not talented enough, I'm too sinful, no one would follow me, someone else will do it, I don't have time, I'm too stressed)

2. Gamers know winning takes teamwork and will challenge other players to step up and help.

When they had done this, they enclosed a great quantity of fish, and their nets began to break; so they signaled to their partners in the other boat for them to come and help them. And they came and filled both of the boats, so that they began to sink. Luke 5:6-7 NASB

DISCUSSION: In what way are you elevating others around you? In what way are you bringing them down? In what way are you reaching out in order to bring others into a relationship with Jesus?

3. Gamers can push past their own weaknesses and previous failures, believing they can win!

But when Simon Peter saw that, he fell down at Jesus' feet, saying, "Go away from me Lord, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" Luke 5:8 NASB

DISCUSSION: How often do your weaknesses and inadequacies hold you back? How can you live as a reflection that Jesus can overcome your inadequacies?

4. Gamers know what they are playing for, and go after it with everything they have got!

And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not fear, from now on you will be catching men." When they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him. Luke 5:10-11 NASB

DISCUSSION: Are you willing to go after it with everything you have? What sacrifices would you **not** be willing to make in order to follow Jesus?

The GAME is about catching people who have broken relationships with God, themselves and others. The GAME is a ministry of reconciliation

DISCUSSION: How are you involved with and promoting the ministry of reconciliation? What needs to change in your life in order for you to be about the ministry of reconciliation? How does the ministry you're involved in play a part in God's bigger story? (If they don't know, tell them how important it is. There is no such thing as an insignificant ministry)

Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. 2 Corinthians 5:18 NASB

Are you in the GAME? Jesus was a gamer!

In his hometown of Nazareth Jesus stood and read from the book of Isaiah and announced it was GAME TIME!

"The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the LORD's favor has come."
Luke 4:18-19 NLT

For the next 10 Weeks I commit to do the following:

1. Pray for our church's growth
2. Invite a friend to church
3. Share God's message of love with someone
4. Celebrate in worship what God has done

DISCUSSION: Are you willing to say "Yes" to the above four steps? What are two or three ways in which you can share God's message of reconciliation with someone? What about serving at the homeless shelter, working with foster children or the elderly? Who can you invite to church or share Christ's love with? Who in your life do you think is ready to listen?

PRAYER PROJECT: Spend 5-7 minutes alone with God and talk to Him about that which is in your life that is keeping you from being more effective in the ministry of reconciliation. Share with the group what He said.