Humble Pie: Week 1 — "A Title-Less Church"

CONNECT: Do you like pie? What's your favorite kind? Are you a homemade crust person, or is store-bought just as good?

GROW:
1. What have you learned from the children in your life? What is something about the way children approach life that you could use more of?
2. Discuss this quote from the book *The Unnecessary Pastor* that Scott mentioned: "There are no higher levels in the life of Christ—there is simply following Jesus and obeying him, day after day, struggling with sin and sinners, and being surprised by grace and resurrection."
   - What are some situations where you struggle with comparing yourself spiritually/morally to others, thinking of yourself as either lower or higher?
3. **Read John 13:1-8.**
   - What stands out to you personally about this passage?
   - How do you respond when you receive a gift, an act of service, or a word of encouragement from someone? If it's difficult for you to receive, why do you think that is?
4. **Read John 13:12-15.** When/where is it most difficult for you to "stoop lower" or "wash people's feet"—e.g., do a menial task, do something kind for someone who isn't kind to you, not get the credit, extend grace to someone who is difficult to love, etc.?
5. **Read Luke 22:26.** Where is it tempting for you to seek out position, power, status, recognition, or approval?
6. **Read Ephesians 2:4-9.** Our desire for titles, position, recognition, or status falls away when we have fully received the gift of a Father, His grace and kindness, a place in heaven, and salvation. How can you root yourself more in this identity and fully *receive* this gift?

PRAY: Pray for each person in your group to grow in their "childlikeness" and become more rooted in who they are in Jesus, and for God to reveal where He wants to grow their humility.

NEXT: This week, challenge yourself to fully *receive* a gift (be thankful, don't deny it) and give someone a gift (something tangible, an act of service, encouragement, etc.) without expecting anything in return.