

Humble Pie: Week 2 — "Erasing the Lines"

CONNECT: How do you feel about circus peanuts—delicious or digusting?

GROW:

- 1. Before this series, what did you think the terms "pastor" or "being in ministry" meant?
- 2. Read The Message paraphrase of **Ephesians 4:4-13**. What do you think the difference is between a Jesus follower who's employed at a church and a Jesus follower who isn't, specifically in the roles they play?
- 3. Why do you think people tend to lean so heavily into those titled as "pastors" and those who work at a church for prayer, guidance, etc.?
 - a. How have you witnessed lines being drawn between the two?
 - b. What do you think it will take for those lines to be erased—in our church specifically, and in today's church culture in general?
- 4. Read **1 Peter 4:10**. What does being "in ministry" look like in your life right now? If you've never considered yourself as being in ministry, what could it look like for you to use your gifts in that way?
- 5. Read **Philippians 2:3-8, 17 and Romans 5:2, 5**. As Jon said, "Jesus poured His life out for us (*kenosis*), and He invites us to do the same... take what God has given you and give it away in the same sacrificial and generous way God gave it to you."
 - a. What prevents you from pouring yourself out? Past hurts, pride, fear, prioritizing other things, not making time for Him to fill you, etc.?
 - b. "He doesn't expect us to fill people's cups, but he does expect us to empty ours." What's the difference between those two things?

PRAY: Pray for God to help you see your life as ministry. Ask Him to show you how to follow Jesus' example of washing feet and generously, sacrificially pouring out love onto people who are currently in your everyday life (family, coworkers, etc.), as well as strangers you come across. Ask Him for Help in overcoming any obstacles that have prevented you from doing that in the past.

NEXT: Make it your goal to do something "pastoral" this week that maybe you wouldn't normally do or feel qualified to—e.g., ask someone if you can pray over them, visit someone who's in the hospital, write an encouraging note, start a conversation with someone about where you've seen God work recently, start a Bible study with some friends or coworkers, etc.