

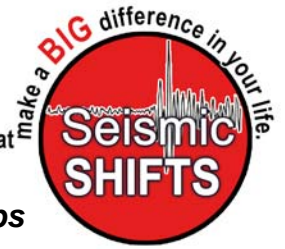
8. Take a few minutes to discuss your group's service project tonight and list three or four steps you will be taking this week to move your project forward. Take time to pray for your adopted ministry and it's leader!



POWER TOOLS

the little changes that

*Shifts That Build
Powerful & Lasting Relationships*



You must love the Lord your God...Love your neighbor as yourself."
Matthew 22:37-39

In this life God has give you "power tools" to help you build and maintain relationships with others. This morning we discover them.

The "Power Case": _____ (1)

The Power Source: _____ (2)

People Power Tool #1: _____ (3)

"Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way... the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches.

But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire. And the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself.

People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish, but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison. Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God. And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right!" *James 3:2-10*

"The tongue can bring death or life." *Proverbs 18:21*

"the words of the wise bring healing." *Proverbs 12:18*

Seismic Shifts Ideas


- Learn to _____ (4), not just think it!
- _____
- Practice the power of _____ (5)



People Power Tool #2: _____ (6)

"God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen. *1 Peter 4:10 - 11*

But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love. *Galatians 5:13*



My SEISMIC SHIFT for this week:

Prayer List: Take a few moments to share prayer needs with your group. Write them down here and have someone volunteer to pray specifically for each individual need during prayer time.

Group Project: What steps do you and your group need to take this week to further your support of the ministry you have adopted?

Serving is so important that God not only gave us special abilities to serve with, but special places where we can serve!

_____ (7) and _____ (8)



Practicing Our Serving Power

Choose one person in your home and perform an act of service for that person. If you are not sure what you can do that will mean a lot to them, you can simply ask them. If you discover that serving this person strengthens your relationship, look for another opportunity to serve them again! Here are some ideas:

- Offer to do another family members chores for the day.
- Surprise everyone by offering to cook dinner and do the dishes.
- Clean the bathroom and scrub the toilets.
- When someone sits down to watch TV, offer them the remote and watch what they want to watch.
- Offer to loan an outfit or pair of shoes to a family member who would love to borrow them.
- Instead of calling "shotgun!" and fighting for the front seat, call "backseat!" and give someone else the front! You can have fun watching people stare at you each time you do this!



Get involved in a Growth Group Project!

Each of our weeknight Growth Groups have taken on one of our church ministries to "help make it better". Find a Growth Group and get involved helping out!



I will reach outside myself to others!



- (1) I will spend consistent time with God.
- (2) I will focus my worship.
- (3) I will treat myself like God's Temple.
- (4) I will reach outside myself to others.
- (5) I will regard everything I have as God's.
- (6) I will purposefully invite others into relationship with Jesus.

Growth Group Discussion Starters

1. Read the following quotes. Share with the group which quote speaks to you the most and why.

"We humans are like hedgehogs in winter. We try to stand close enough for warmth, but not too close - for fear of being pinched by each other's quills." -**German Philosopher Schopenhauer**

"We don't love alone. We are members of one body. We are responsible for each other. And I tell you that the time will soon come when, if men will not learn that lesson, then they will be taught it in fire and blood and anguish." -**J.B. Priestly, British writer**

"Our world has become a neighborhood without becoming a brotherhood." -**Billy Graham**

2. Read Proverbs 18:21; Proverbs 12:18 and James 3:3-12. What are some of the warnings God gives about the power of our words.

3. How have you experienced the power of words to cut, burn or bring pain?

4. How have you been blessed, built up, and encouraged through the words of another person?

5. In Jesus' day foot washing was one of the humblest forms of service. What are some modern-day examples of foot washing? Who is one person you believe God wants you to serve more faithfully, and what service can you extend to that person?

6. When is it most difficult for you to serve?

7. Share with the group a serving shift you have decided to try in the coming week. How can your small group pray for you and keep you accountable as you seek to experience transformation in this area of your life?