

BIG IDEA

Selfishness is the enemy of sacrifice.

WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO KNOW?

What is your favorite book or movie about sacrifice? Why do you love it?

Read Matthew 26:1-16. Where do you see examples of selfishness and sacrifice? How can you empathize with the different people in this passage?

WHAT IS MY INITIAL REACTION?

Take a moment to reflect on the decisions you have made in your life. Identify one or two decisions you made that were selfish. Then identify one or two decisions you made that were sacrificial. What were the motivations behind those decisions?

Is it possible to be selfish *while* “sacrificing” for others? Support your answer.

Read Ephesians 5:1-2 before discussing the following quote. What words or phrases grab your attention (in the passage or the quote)?

“The difference between an admirer and a follower still remains, no matter where you are. The admirer never makes any true sacrifices. He always plays it safe. Though in words, phrases, songs, he is inexhaustible about how highly he prizes Christ, he renounces nothing, gives up nothing, will not reconstruct his life, will not be what he admires, and will not let his life express what it is he supposedly admires.”

-Søren Kierkegaard

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

When was the last time you gave up something you love for something you love more?

Read James 3:13-16. What is selfishness costing you? How can sacrifice increase the quality of your life and relationship with others?

What are some small sacrifices you could start making in order to combat selfishness in your life? Who in our Life Group are you willing to let hold you accountable for this?

