WEEK 4 | ACTION



INTRODUCTION

Take some time to discuss the previous week's readings and/or challenges. Here are some things to discuss:

Celebrate a win.

Share a struggle.

What did God reveal to you during the readings and/or challenges this past week?

Ice Breaker: What would you do if you knew you couldn't fail?

WATCH SERVING CHALLENGE VIDEO 4 - ACTION

kingofkings.org/servingchallenge

DISCUSSION

- On Day 3 of Serving Challenge, Zach referenced a study launched by author Daniel Pink called the "World Regret Survey." In this study, Pink found that "regret is one of the most universal emotions that human beings experience." So, let's get vulnerable now. What is a deep regret that you experience?
- When it comes to regret, Pink found that, especially as we age, our deepest regrets are almost always our regrets of inaction. Not things we have done but things we have not yet done. As you listened to the regrets in the group, was Pink's finding true or false for your group?
- 3 A consistent theme in the Bible, in fact, the theme that sparked the Protestant Reformation in the 1500s is this phrase, "Justification, by grace, through faith." It emphasizes our salvation not on our own works, but on the grace God gives to us through Jesus's action, namely His perfect life, death on the cross, and resurrection from the dead. So, if we are saved by grace, what then is the purpose of good works?
- Read **Ephesians 2:1-9.** Often times we stop reading at verse 9. Now read **Ephesians 2:10**: What ought to be our response to God's grace as laid out in this verse?
- **8** Read **James 2:14-26** and answer the following questions to further explore the relationship between faith and actions.



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DISCUSSION (CONT.)

- How do faith and actions go together?
- Read verse 17. Is dead faith a real thing? Do you believe that someone can believe fully in Jesus on the inside without ever performing an outside action that would prove their belief?
- Dallas Willard once said, "Grace is not opposed to effort, it is opposed to earning. Earning is an attitude. Effort is an action." What is Dallas trying to help us understand?
- How can you better put your faith into practice?
- Read Philippians 2:7-8a, which says: "...rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself..." Jesus's continued posture in serving others was found in His humility. How are humility and serving others related?
- When was the last time you intentionally humbled yourself? What did you do? And yes, I know that talking about your own humility is always a bit uncomfortable or ironic! ©
- Which of these four truths do you struggle with believing?
 - Your actions can change lives.
 - You don't go alone.
 - You know how the story ends.
 - God can even fix what you break.

CLOSING THOUGHTS

Your actions will never save you. But your actions could help save somebody else.

#SERVINGCHALLENGE 6







Read Matthew 5:16: "In the same say, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."



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CHALLENGE FOR THE WEEK

Put your faith in action. Complete as many serving suggestions for individuals as possible in the next 7 days. Also, as a bonus, organize a servant event as a group that you will participate in. This can be on your own, or if you are going through the 40-day challenge with your church, it can be a churchwide event.

Review the Serving Suggestions Appendix at the back of this guide for serving suggestions for individuals, students, small groups, and churches.

PRAYER

Spend time in prayer today confessing your inactions. Thank God for the opportunity for new chances to be His light in this world. Pray for boldness and courage to put your faith into action.

*For a deeper, daily experience to go alongside the weekly small group experience, read days 20-26 of Serving Challenge: A 40-Day Life-Changing Journey to Serve Like Jesus.

