



PLANTING TREES WHOSE SHADE YOU MAY NEVER SIT IN with David Griffin

▶ FOCUS VERSE

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.
Mark 10:45

▶ DISCUSSION

1. **In addition to time, talent, and treasure, David stresses the importance of sharing your life experience with others. (See Psalm 71:15-16 ESV.)**
 - a. Who was a person who helped you by sharing their experiences with you early in your career?

 - b. What experiences have you had that might be beneficial or educational for others?

2. **“Greatest Generation,” Baby Boomer, Gen-Xer, Millennial, “Zoomer”:** Which generation are you a part of, and how has that shaped your worldview? (See Psalm 145:4 NIV.)
 - a. What do you find to be most difficult to understand about other generations you come into contact with?

 - b. What do you think they find difficult to understand about you?

3. **What sorts of things do you do to better understand the people you work with or supervise? (See Philippians 2:4-5 NLT.)**
 - a. Have you learned anything you found surprising?



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4. **David mentions Jesus washing the feet of his disciples as an example of good servant leadership. (See *John 13:1-17 NIV*.)**
 - a. Do you do anything at your job that could be seen as serving people below you in the workplace hierarchy?

 - b. What do the people above you do to model good servant leadership?

5. **David says that we shouldn't value other people based on how we see them, but how Jesus would see them. (See *1 Samuel 16:7 NIV*.)**
 - a. How do you think other people see you?

 - b. How do you think Jesus would see you?

6. **Think about what categories your friendships fall into—work, church, sports, hobbies, etc.**
 - a. Do you find that a sizable majority of your friends fall into only one of those groups?

 - b. If so, do you find it difficult or stressful to make friends in the other groups? Why?

7. **Do you have any friendships that are transactional—in other words, based primarily on what you can get from the other person?**
 - a. What are some other things you could find to appreciate about those friends?

8. **David talks about how important it is to invest in people even though you might never see the fruits of that investment. (See *Philippians 2:4*.)**
 - a. Have you “planted any trees whose shade you might never sit in”?

 - b. What inspired you to do that, and how has it made you feel?

