



STUDY GUIDE – May 24, 2020

Message Title: UnChanged – Helping Others

Teaching Pastor: Bryan Pope

This study guide has been designed for Small Groups in mind, and can be used by individuals as well.

Warm-up/Icebreaker:

Have people finish this sentence, *Patriotism is* _____.

Feel free to discuss answers or have someone share a story about themselves or a family member, who has been in the military.

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. ~John 15:13 NIV

Pray:

Dear Lord, thank you that we are still here and are called to help others. Please move us, Jesus, from intent to action so that we can reach others and connect them with Your life-changing power. We thank you that you are working in our hearts as we speak.

Get Started:

"The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow, do good anyway. Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough, give the world the best you got anyway. You see in the final analysis, it is between you and God; it was never between you and them anyway."

~Mother Teresa

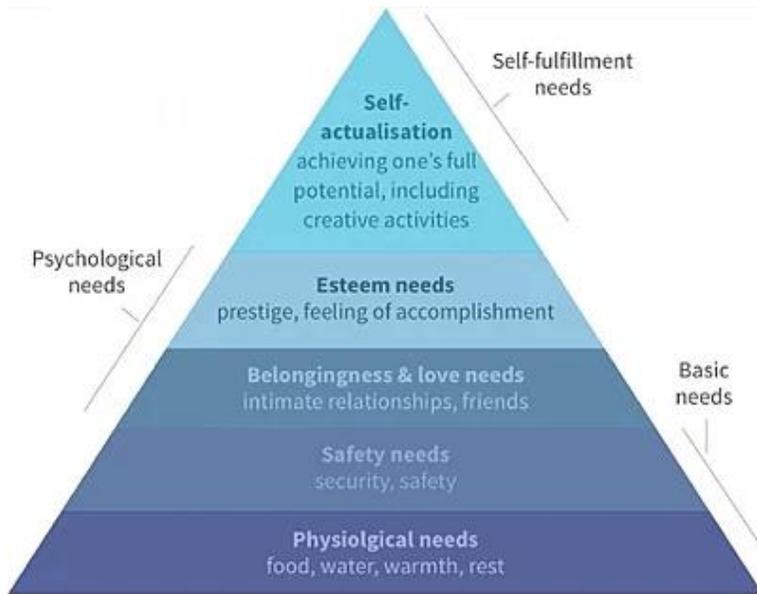
Read Matthew 6:3

- Have you ever done good anonymously and what was the outcome?

When Michelangelo painted the Sistine Chapel, he lay on his back for four grueling years. By the end of it, he was worn down and his eyesight was permanently damaged. His friends scarcely recognized him by the end of it, even though he was thirty-seven at completion. When asked why he worked so diligently on a dark corner no one would ever see, he responded simply, "God will see." (Maxwell, The 21 Indispensable Qualities of a Leader).

Watch and Discuss video:

Pastor Bryan Pope references Matthew 5:14-15 about letting our light shine before men so they see our good deeds and glorify our father. Letting our light shine sometimes means providing for peoples' basic needs (see Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs picture below).



- Describe a time when you were able to meet someone's needs and eventually have a conversation about faith.

Reflect and Commit:

Read James 2:14-26

- After reading the above passage, what is the Biblical relationship between faith and works? While it seems obvious at first glance, this has been debated for centuries.
- When was the last time someone went out of his/her way to do something good for you and what did that act of service mean to you?
- What kinds of things might keep us from putting our faith into action in our workplaces, our neighborhoods, and other parts of our lives outside of the church?

Pray:

Dear God, thank you that our help points people toward what You have done for them. Let our help allow You to take people by the hand so they may walk in Your presence, believe their life has meaning, and find their purpose all in You. By doing and giving anytime we are able, and trusting that You will send help, continue to help us put our mission into motion.