



## Discussion Guide: Influencer | Hospitality

### **Begin with prayer**

5 min

### **Check In**

20-30 min

Spend a few minutes catching up on life with one another.

- Fruit: what has been bringing you joy lately?
- Thorn: what have you been struggling with lately?
- Vine: how have you seen or been connecting with God lately?
- Bud: what are you looking forward to?

### **Discuss this week's sermon**

10-15 min

- The feeding on thousands was a miracle that the disciple had already seen Jesus do. And yet, they still were more focused on the impossibility of the miracle, and not the opportunity for the miracle. Can you describe a time when you were focused on the impossibility, and God surprised you with the miraculous?
- Mark preached about how Christian hospitality is taking what happens in the church to a world that is in need. Where have you seen Christian hospitality this week?

### **Open your bibles together**

30-35 min

- Read Ephesians 2:10
- What are these 'good works' that God has prepared us to do? Is there something specific that you feel called to in this season?
- Mark told the story of a pastor who took people on canoe rides with the words faith and works on either paddle. What is a sign that you are only relying on faith? What is a sign that you are only relying on works?
- Read Mark 5:18-20
- We often think about influencing from a position of strength. But here we find a story of a man influencing through the testimony of his weakness. Have you ever been encouraged by the testimony of someone's weakness, or encouraged someone with your own?
- Read Mark 8:1-3



- Mark said that the compassion of God will always lead to the provision of God. When have you seen God's provision and what did that teach you about God's compassion?
- Read Mark 8:4-7
- Jesus asked the disciples what they had to feed the people. Surely, they would have thought that what they had was insufficient. How has God used the small things in your life to bring His blessing?
- Mark said, "Jesus can't bless what we don't put in His hands." What is something that you've struggled to put in God's hand?

**Prayer for one another**

10 min

- Encourage the person who's assigned over prayer request to get them at this time