

The banner features a background image of a vast, flat, arid landscape under a hazy sky. The text 'UNCOMMON GROUND' is prominently displayed in large, white, serif capital letters. Below it, 'MESSAGE BASED QUESTIONS' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

# UNCOMMON GROUND

MESSAGE BASED QUESTIONS

## **Uncommon Ground- WK 5**

*In a world that's divided, it's easier to pick a side than to fight for unity. But we have a higher calling- to choose honor in a world of division. Are you ready to stand on uncommon ground?*

**Conversation Starter:** *Have some fun as you break the ice.*

- What is a deal/promotion that you have a hard time resisting?
- Would you rather always take the worst parking spot or always be the last in line?

**Key Scriptures:** *Let God's word frame the conversation. Take a minute to read these selected passages together as a Group.*

- Read Philippians 2:3-11
- What words or phrases stand out to you as read/heard this passage?

**Discussion Questions:** *Pick a few of the questions below to guide your time.*

**Starting Sharing:** *Choose a question or two to create openness.*

- How would you define humility?
- Share was a time you were served or elevated. How did it make you feel?
- Who do you know that exemplifies humility?

**Start Thinking:** *Choose a question or two to think critically about the subject.*

- Why do you think humility gets a negative connotation in our society? Where do you most often hear the messages of self-promotion or self-preservation?
- What is the result of living a life of trying to impress others?
- How can practicing the posture of a servant strengthen your home life, career, and friendships?
- What can we learn from Christ's example? In what ways did He couple extraordinary humility with extraordinary power?

**Make it Personal:** *Choose a question or two to help you identify your best next step.*

- Where do you have a difficult time looking out for the interests of others?
- Paul tells us to consider others as better than ourselves. Which "others" do you have a hard time elevating above your needs and desires?
- In the upside-down kingdom of Jesus we win when we lose for the sake of others. Describe a time you experienced joy and fulfillment by you lowering yourself to life someone else up.
- Have you participated in our annual be Rich Initiative in the past? How do you plan to get in on the action this year?
- How can you couple humility with power? How will you follow the script that Jesus left for us?

**Next Steps:** *Everybody has a next step. Check out some ideas below to help you grow by doing.*

Jesus came and laid down his power. What do you plan to do with your power?

- **Be Rich.** God has commanded us to be rich in good deeds. Chances are you can help contribute financially or through volunteering with our partner organizations. When we seek what's best for others at the cost of our desires we show the world Jesus' love. Check out [LCBChurch.com/BeRich](http://LCBChurch.com/BeRich) and put humility into practice.

**Prayer:** *Invite God to do what only He can do!*

God, thank you for the example of Jesus. Thank you that even though he was entitled to the best of the best, he set aside his rights and privileges and used his power and status not to benefit himself but others. Please help us to be people who lower ourselves to lift others. Please give us the ability to practice humility in our relationships this week. May we improve the reality of those around us, one act of love and service at a time. Amen.

**Bonus Feature:** *Want to keep the learning going?*

- **Read the book:** Buy a copy of the Third Option and dive deeper into these principles.
- **Memorize it:** Selflessness does not come naturally. This week Jason challenged us to memorize the words of the Apostle Paul from Philippians 2:5-11. You don't need to do it all at once. Take one section at a time over the next three weeks. Remind yourself the way Jesus .

"You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.<sup>6</sup> Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to.

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<sup>7</sup> Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form,<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.

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<sup>9</sup> Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names,<sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,<sup>11</sup> and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Comments, questions, concerns? We're here to help.  
Email us at [groups@lcbchurch.com](mailto:groups@lcbchurch.com)