

Last week – goals for 2020+

WE SAID....

God doesn't mind

- what your goals are
- where you live
- what kind of boat you have
- where you go
- etc etc

CONCLUSION....GOD CARES ABOUT YOUR HEART

Remember what Dave just read about Jesus summary?

- **Love God**
- **Love your neighbor as yourself**

This week we look at Jesus' life

What that means for our goals

What God really wants from you

How we align our goals – our lives – to what God wants

NOT A CHRISTIAN? JUST CHECKING IT ALL OUT?

Then see me or one of our elders at the coffee time....

Key theme in Life of Jesus...

- loving and serving others

Sounds easy, but how to put in practice?

Mens group / looking at 2 words from God

– **NICER & BLESS**

Today, we will look at the 2nd word – **BLESS**

>> relate this to our goals, our purpose

First some perspective - **1 Corinthians 10:31**

31 So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

Jesus served – and we want to do the same, BUT HOW?

The word BLESS.... as in **B-L-E-S-S others**

5 letters – 5 ideas

Ready?

B

B: Begin with prayer

Jesus was son of God but still prayed – OFTEN

Mark 1:35-37

35 Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. 36 Simon and his companions went to look for him, 37 and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!"

Just when he's starting to get rolling with his ministry...

Jesus disappears to pray

Even more surprising,

Jesus spent an entire night in prayer before choosing his disciples

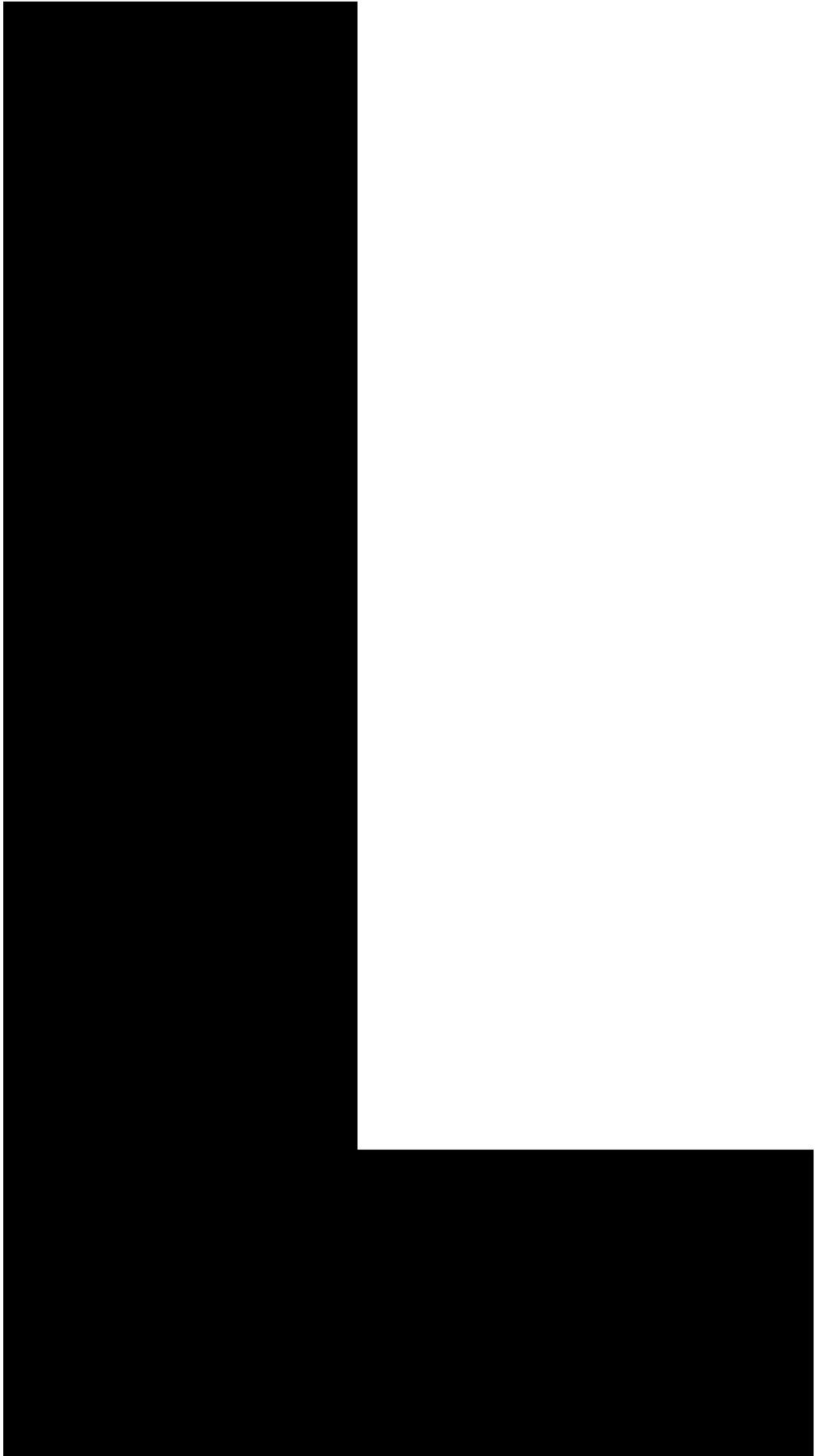
Luke 6:12-13

12 One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. 13 When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles

Wow!!! Jesus is the SON OF GOD but still needs to pray

How much more so for us!

Start the day with prayer – praying for how you can bless others.... On the boat this should be easy, right?



L: Listen and Look for opportunities

When we pray – we expect an answer, right?

In this case we expect God to show us what He has for us

How to BLESS others

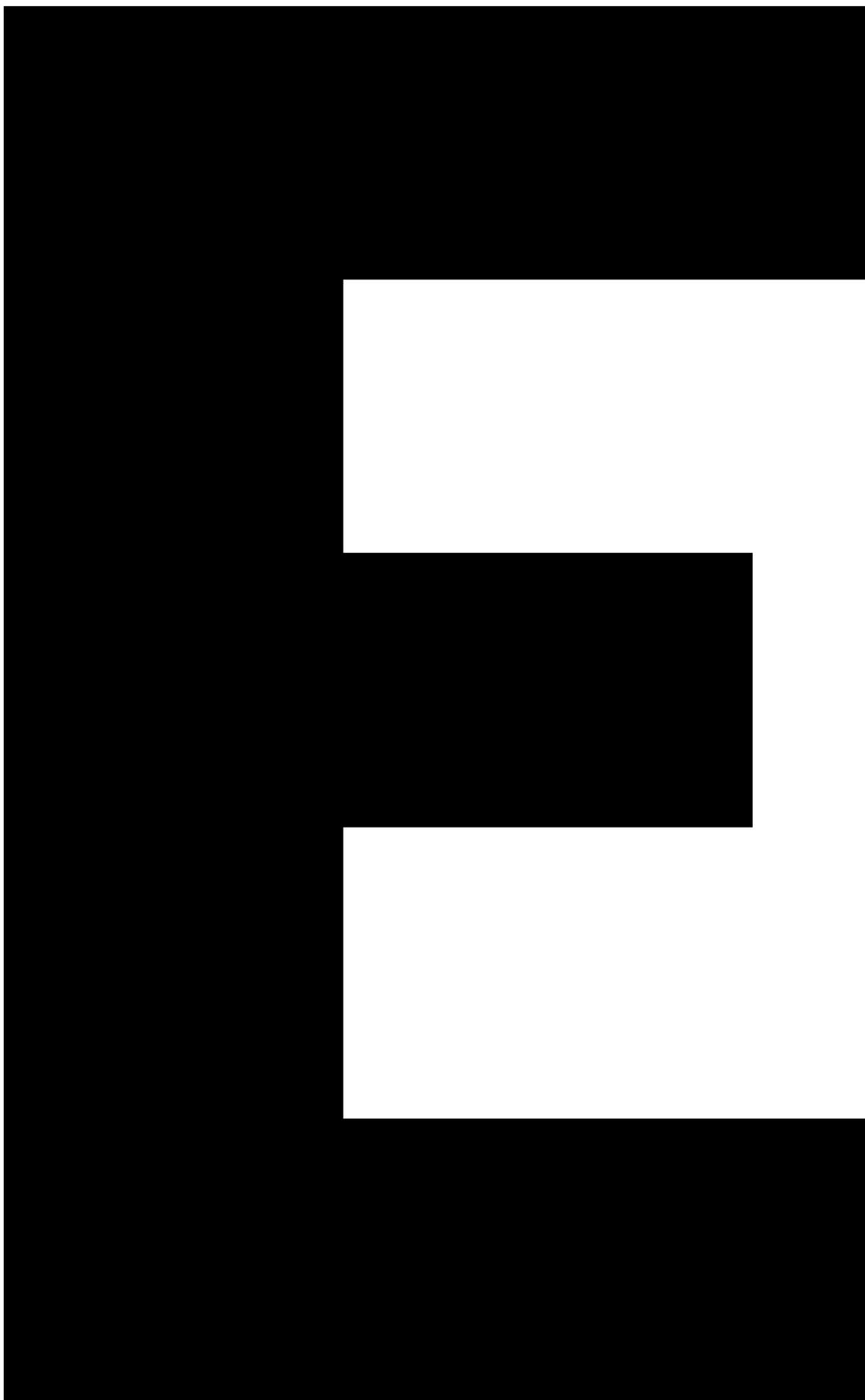
Paul's letter to the **Ephesians** gives us an insight – chapter **4:10**

10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

The opportunities to do good works – to serve others are there

– we just need to find them!

Prayer helps us find them



E: Exercise obedience

Now when God shows us the good works to do
Then we need to do them
We need to be obedient

Quite often can take us out of our comfort zone, right?

Typical, isn't it?

In our comfort zone, we don't need God, do we?

Out of our comfort zone, we want God's help, right??

So don't worry about the dis-comfort

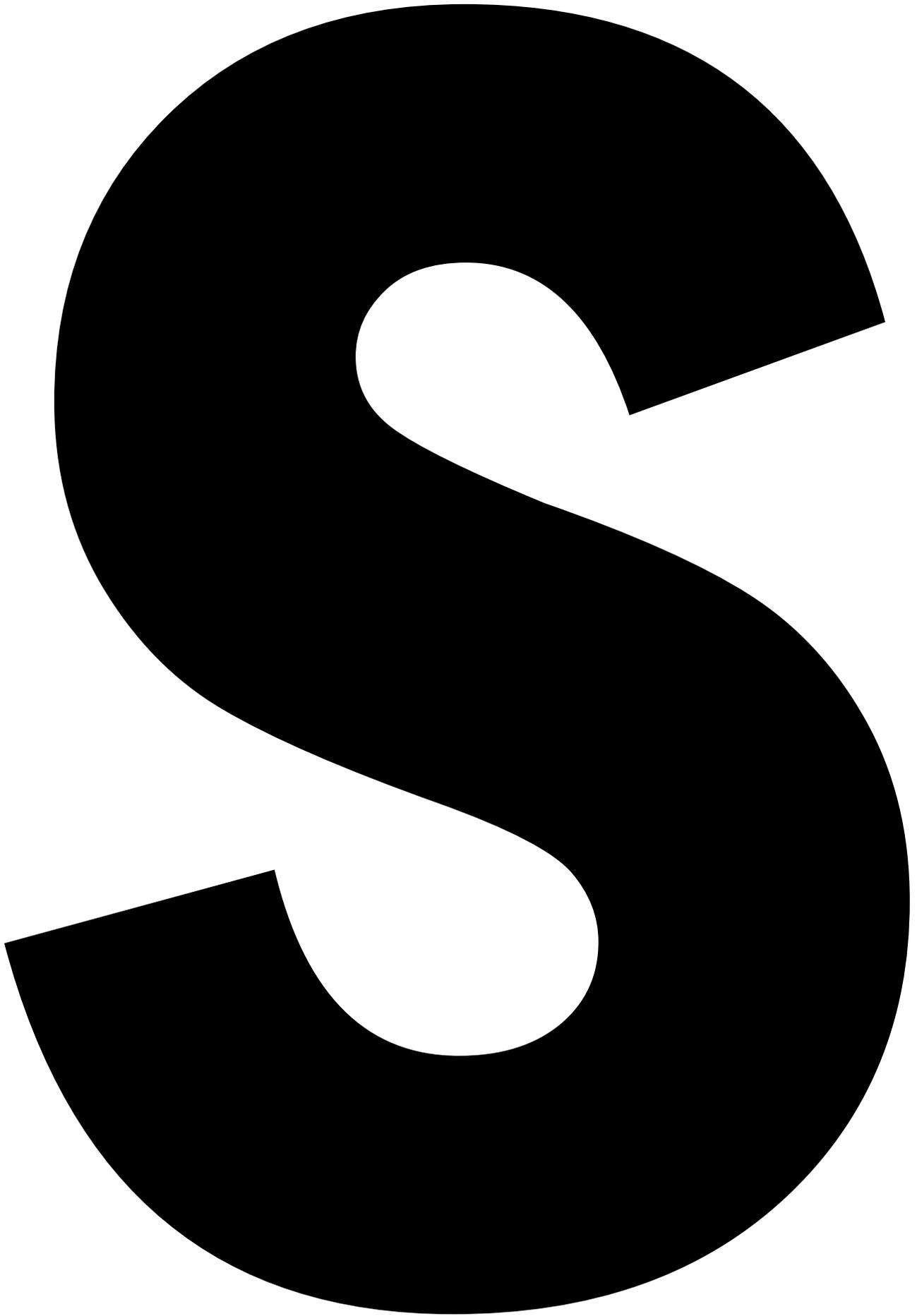
Just do it

Be obedient

Not sure about that?

Check out what **James says in 4:17**

*17 If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do
and doesn't do it, it is sin for them.*



S: See everyone in God's image.

Sometimes we rather not talk to or help others

They are so different

Sometimes we think maybe not worth helping

It's their own fault, after all

Or... why don't they just do something about it?

BUT...

All of us are created in God's image – **Genesis 1:27**

no one is better than another.

So we need to look up/down/sideways

In fact, most of us cruisers are so much more blessed than others

More blessed than others back home

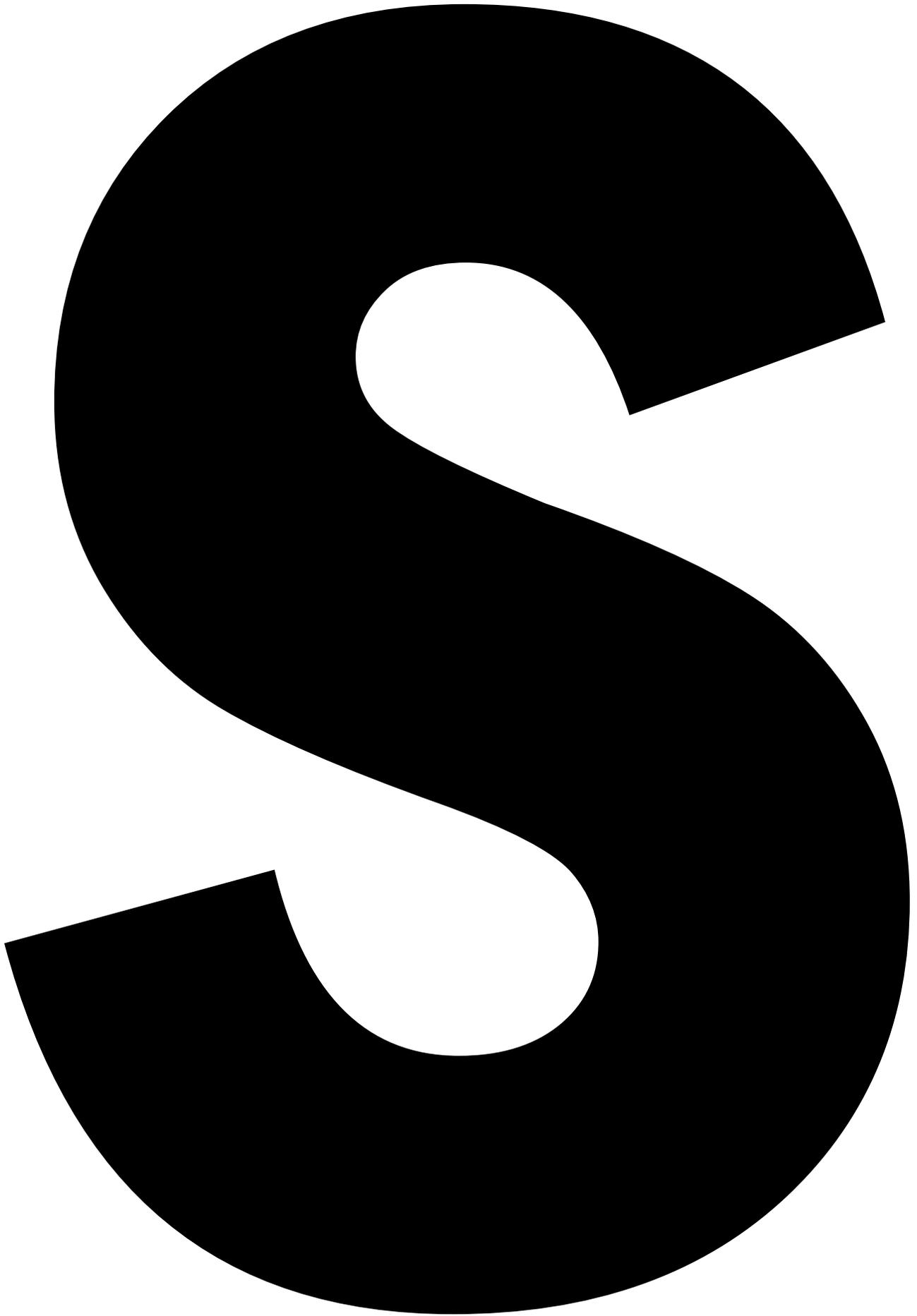
But especially more blessed than most in the Bahamas

So shouldn't we be a blessing to them while we are here?

Sure!

How do we do that?

By Serving



S: Serve others

Remember what Dave read earlier in service?

How we need to love our neighbor

How the greatest must be least of all?

How Jesus washed his disciples feet

It's upside down, the kingdom of God, isn't it?

We think that waiters should serve us

– and if they do good we tip them

But Jesus doesn't say that

He says the opposite – stoop down to help them !

How to do that?

Begin w Pray. Then Listen & Look. Then Exercise Obedience

>>> BLESS others....

So how do we build the kingdom of God?

How do we set our goals to line up with what God wants?

How do we serve others?

By coming to church? No

By men's or women's bible study? No

These are good, but they are just training for us, right?

Remember what I said earlier -- God wants your heart

He wants you in the game

Part of the team

Serving others

Even being His hands & feet

So....the real way to turn your goals for 2020 into a kingdom building tool is to serve others in love – to BLESS OTHERS

Can you do that?

Of course you can!

How?

- Begin with prayer
- Listen & Look for the opportunity
- Exercise obedience

- See all in image of God
 - Serve them!
-

Still not sure how to start or what to do?

Want to really step out & challenge yourself?

Get 5 \$20 bills or \$20 gift certificates from the market

Then look for people to give them to

Give it with a short note

>> tell them Jesus blessed you and you now want to bless them

If you do this, be like the sower in the parable of Jesus

- he scattered seed on all types of ground
- was not responsible for making the seed grow
- just for getting it out there

we cannot tell a person's heart just by looking

our job is just to be in service to God

scattering seed – we can't make it grow – God does that

Conclusion

Everything we do is for the glory of God
– that’s why He created us –in his image – for his glory

Check what Paul says in **1 Corinthians 10:31**

31 So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

Whatever your goal – it needs to include BLESSing others

Otherwise we’re just doing it for ourselves

That’s called **SELFISHNESS**

Bible has lots to say about that

My prayer that this word BLESS can help you find your way
Can I pray for you now?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Summary on YouTube : search “**youtube bless others heersink**”

Get a copy of this study guide to dig deeper

Whether you are a man or woman

Paper copies with me, kindle copies online

Just want to learn more about being a Christian?

See Ed, Frank or myself over the coffee time

