# "A Supporting Role"

## **Open It:**

 When you hear the phrase "it's not about you," what's the first thing that comes to mind? Serious or funny?



- Who has been a "supporting role" in your life . . . someone who pointed you toward Jesus without making it about themselves?
- If you had to pick one symbol (animal, object, or sign) to represent your life's mission right now, what would it be?

### Read It:

John 1:19-23

Isaiah 40:3

John 1:29

John 3:30-31

## **Explore It:**

- In John 1:19–22, John is pressed about his identity. How do you typically respond when people ask, "Who are you?"
  - John was clear about who he was not. Why is it important for both individuals and churches like BPF to know what they aren't as much as what they are?
  - John the Baptist declared, "I am not the Messiah." What are ways we might accidentally act like we're the "savior" in people's lives?
- What does John's declaration in John 3:30 ("He must become greater; I must become less") teach us about humility in ministry?
- John 1:23 quotes Isaiah 40: "Make straight the way for the Lord." What does it look like for us to "prepare the way" for others to encounter Jesus today?
- John 1:29 calls Jesus "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." Why do you think John used that specific title for Jesus?
- How do these passages (John 1:19–23, 1:29, and 3:30–31) shape your understanding of what it means to be a witness for Jesus?
  - How does pointing people to Jesus rather than ourselves change the way we serve and relate to others?

- The message repeats, "It's not about you." Why do you think this reminder is so necessary for both individuals and churches?
- How does Brazos Pointe's partnership with ministries like Texas Port Ministry or Pregnancy Help Center help illustrate what it means to live "UP & OUT"?
- What stands out to you about the idea that serving is not just an act of kindness but a way to endear people to Jesus?
- The vision campaign asks, "How can we be even more for our neighbors?" What's one answer that comes to your mind?
- Why is it significant that Serve Days are designed around partners' schedules, rather than our convenience?
- How does serving locally connect to the church's global mission of making disciples?
- What might it look like for you personally to be a "working witness" like John . . . pointing others to Jesus in daily life?
- John was willing to step back so Jesus could step forward. Where in your life might Jesus be asking you to do the same??

#### Do It:

- Where in your daily routine could you take a step "UP in love" this week?
- What is one practical way you could step "OUT in love/service" for a neighbor or local ministry partner?
- How can you remind yourself daily that "it's not about me" when it comes to your work, family, or ministry?
- If serving is meant to connect neighbors to Jesus, what would need to change in the way you currently serve?
- What step of generosity could you take that would stretch your faith and reflect God's heart?
- How can you help ensure UP&OUT is not just about a building, but about becoming a church more for our neighbors, nations, and the next generation?
- What commitment will you make about prayer for this vision campaign?