

Huddle Up!

START STRONG



MatterSpark[★]
COACHING + CONSULTING

Ignite what matters most!



VIP HUDDLES

Before the first "Welcome". Before a single cup of coffee is served.

HUDDLES are our best opportunity to set the tone for the day.

Huddles create the space for volunteers to not only reconnect with one another but, most all, to realign and connect with God before doing anything at all.

When things are going well, God will show us how we can encourage others.

And when things are not going well, God will remind us exactly who He is and that He is trustworthy.

HUDDLES are also where we can have fun and be a people of joy! God will use the overflow as we connect with others throughout the day.



WELCOME

We are in the people business...not the security or greeting or etc. business, so...**ask**;

Will this devotion/huddle time move the ministry forward?

Is this relevant to what we, as a ministry and/or a church are going through right now?

Huddle is the time volunteers spend::

V- Verifying posts for all volunteers

I- Information Updates

P- Pray

V - VERIFY POSTS

Before “go time”, let’s clarify roles, speaking “common language” and casting vision for and to each role. Getting everyone together on the same page, same mission. This is not the time to figure out where people are serving; that is done prior to Sunday. This is to confirm areas, introduce new people and/or leaders.

I - INFORMATION UPDATES

Share only the pertinent information needed that day – equipping to better serve guests. Such as:

Communion today?

Baptisms today? How does that affect the parking?

Potential weather issues in the forecast? How to prepare?

Special action/hand out today?

P - PRAY

Devotion- Vision Cast and Encourage!
DO have fun! It’s about JOY – Your Joy
DO make sure “it sticks”. Something tangible or a **phrase of the day**.

A verse and a simple application or story to remember/reflect on while serving.

DO ask for feedback – you know when it doesn’t flow right...

Don’t get stuck on “your message”

Be flexible!

Don’t “read”. Be prepared!

Don’t be afraid to try something new!

Huddles set the tone for the rest of the day!

DEVOTIONAL

PHRASE OF THE DAY: A GOOD GOOD-BYE

Have a good one!

We hear that phrase All.-The-Time. It pretty much has replaced the older "Have a nice day!". In fact, this statement is so common, it makes one wonder what good "one" are we to have? A good ride home? A good walk? A good dinner? And does what we say even matter?

After church...what do we say?

Have a good one! Enjoy your day! Thanks for coming today!

Thanks for visiting us today! See ya next week!

Good bye! (screeching tires.....!!!!)

Wait! No! "Good-bye" seems too simple or final. Did you know that this phrase actually comes from the late 16th century contraction of "God be with you"!

Once again, God makes sure that we see and hear him everywhere!

Beginning and the end. Genesis and Revelation.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

Revelation 22:13

What if God decided to not include Revelations? The "good" ending. I mean, come on! That book alone provides us with the best ending EVER. We can know, that we know, that we know "the end of the story". And it is very good.

Sometimes we put so much work, people and planning into the beginning of our services and not at the end?

Don't we all love and look for the ending of any story?

Have you enjoyed a movie...until the ending ruined it?

May Yahweh bless you and protect you;
may Yahweh make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you;
May Yahweh look with favor on you and
give you peace.
NUMBERS 6:24-26

People are hearing beautiful worship songs. Then the Holy Spirit does what He only He can do and works in big and small ways as they listen and lean into the message. Then it's "over".

As people are leaving:

They may be processing it all, maybe even emotional.

They be fighting the message and in denial.

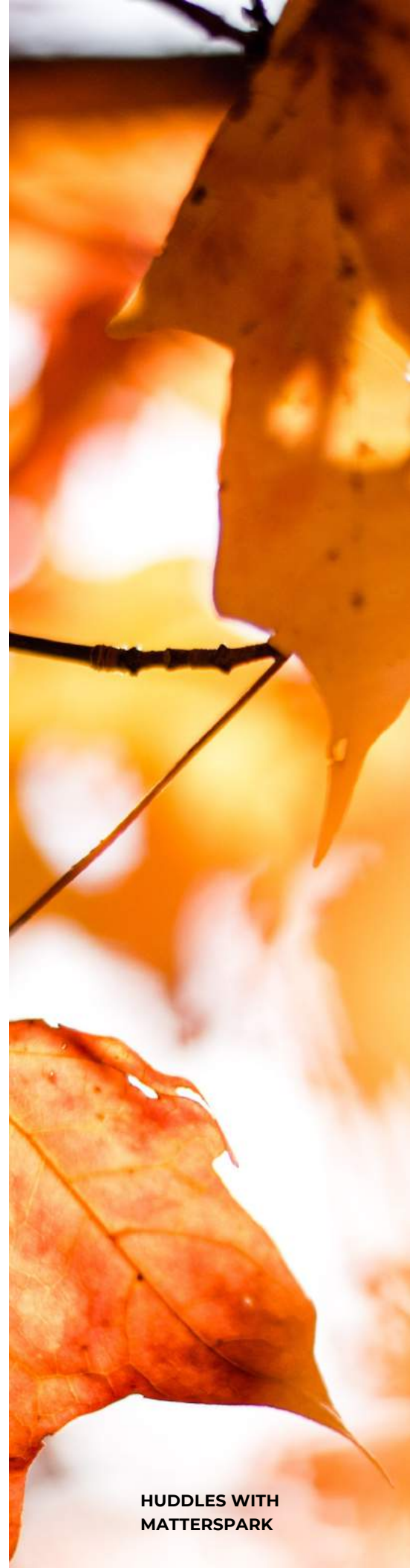
They may be hoping "it" just might be true; this God they just heard about may actually see them!

That Jesus really died for them...regardless of who they are or what they've done.

Let's celebrate that people came and stayed and heard the most important message of their life!

Let's stay engaged! Let's look people in the eye and pray that God will use our "Good-Byes" in way that will stay with them throughout their day and week.

Good-Bye! God be with you!



DEVOTIONAL

BE DELIGHTED!

"What a hard season we all have been through and still going through.

But guess what?! People are coming back to church! And whether 10 or 100 or 1000 show up today, we stand as evidence that God is exactly who He says He is and that Jesus is alive and working in our lives.

But let's pause a moment and take a look around the room. Let's breath and be present. (allow time & even say/do: "Let's breath in, breath out together")

Many of you have served beyond the usual rotation to help during so much uncertainty. It took a lot of time and energy. You may be exhausted.

Many of you have been supporting and caring for family members, friends, neighbors, young and old, and that takes a toll.

Maybe this season that feels like everyone else seems to be coping better than you!!! They are not!

Perhaps it's been a struggle to remember that YOU are here on purpose for a purpose. And if you feel drained or hemmed in or even bored, consider the---

huge space ---

that God has brought you to today.

God doesn't just point you to a place or text you directions. Just as we don't point people where to go when caring for our guests; we bring people, we walk with people.

And God brings you to a "spacious place" - places where there is room to breathe. To grow. To learn. To lean in. To have all the time you need to be who He is leading you to be.

He does it because He "delights" in YOU! I know right?! Have you ever considered God delighting in you? We talk about love, but what about delight? Delight is to give "keen enjoyment, extreme satisfaction" or think about a child squealing so happily that everyone turns to look and smiles!

God doesn't stop there and David knew this all too well. Not only did God rescue David but he brought him into a large place where David could thrive!

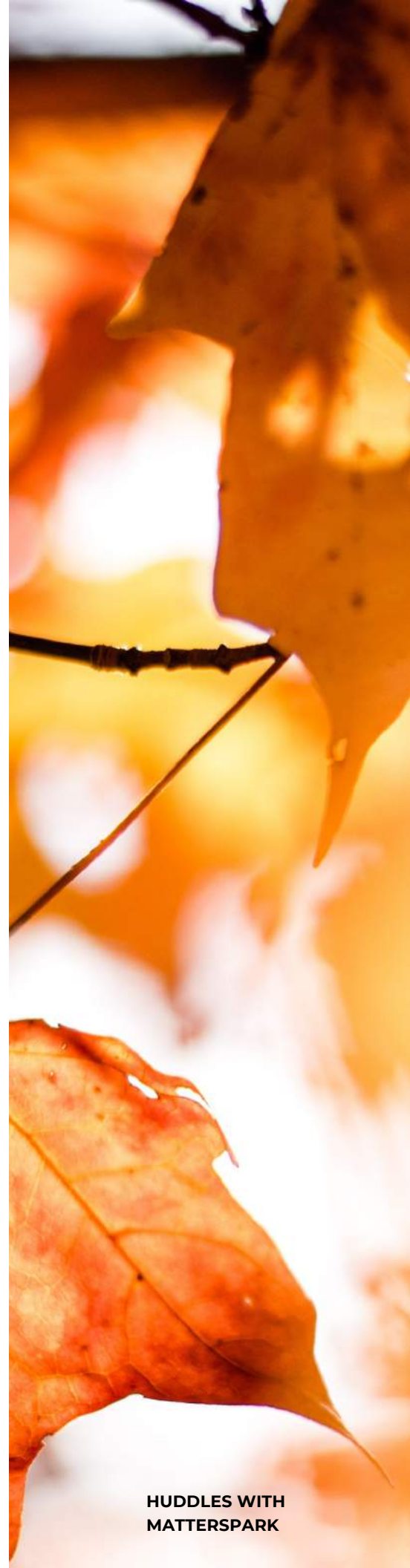
He brought me out to a spacious place;
He rescued me because
He delighted in me.
PSALMS 18::19

Be **delighted** today that you have been bought and paid for.

Be **delighted** today that the work of your thriving is not over!

Be **delighted** today that the God of the universe is so delighted in you that He is working it out for your good and for His Glory.

Be **delighted** in all the possibilities to see and know Him more today!



DEVOTIONAL

I GOT YOU!

“got your back!

I got your six.! Now, this saying originated with World War I fighter pilots referencing the rear of an airplane as the six o'clock position. Picture yourself at the center of a clock face, the area directly in front of you is twelve o'clock. Six o'clock is what lies behind you. On a battlefield, your “six” is the most vulnerable. So, when someone tells you that they've “got your six,” it means they're watching your back. By extension, that person expects you to have their back as well.”

God's “got you” – from Psalm 3:4 –

*“I was crying to the Lord with my voice,
And he answered me from His holy mountain.”*

Imagine every time you even think of an issue, a prayer, a thought- God immediately answers you – “I got you”.

Beautiful-don't you agree?

In fact, God has you in the very palm of His hand:

You'll get a brand-new name straight from the mouth of God.
You'll be a stunning crown in the palm of God's hand,
a jeweled gold cup held high in the hand of your God..”
ISAIAH 62:3 (Message)

So let's be that for others and spend a few minutes to pray for one another. For other ministries and other volunteers. (You may even call out some ministries and ask people to call out “I GOT YOU” if they will pray for that area/ministry/person.)

For our Worship Team – Children's Ministry – Student Ministry – Pastoral Staff.

Imagine that before anyone even asks or when someone says “I have a prayer request...” AND BEFORE they even spoke the request– we call out “I got you!”

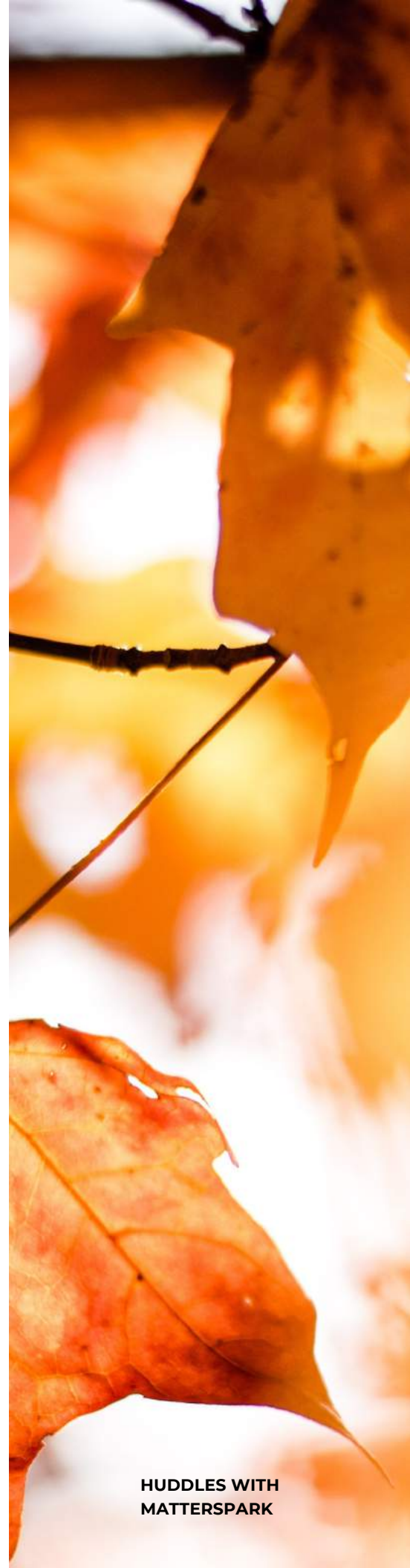
And took responsibility to pray for them at that time and throughout the week and more.
Talk about powerful!!!!!!!!!!!!

Let's pray – (allow a few minutes of silence then Pray over all to end.)

Hey, when we see one another throughout the day or you see someone on another team, just call out:

I GOT YOU!

We are all on the SAME TEAM!



DEVOTIONAL

I HAVE THE TIME

Anyone have so much extra time on their hands they are looking for things to do? It's most likely that we are all juggling the additional responsibilities of family, work, school, zoom calls, illness....

Time is the ONE thing that we cannot make or replace.
We can make more money.
We can replace a broken item or lost with another item.

But once time is spent - it's gone.

Time is constantly moving and so precious yet we barely notice it. Except we recognize when we feel drained at the end of a long day, or a sleepless night and the words we hear ourselves and others repeat is "I'm so busy!"

Jesus is never too busy for us.

No matter what time of day or even if he is on his way somewhere..

"Jesus stopped and called them.
"What do you want me to do for you?" he asked
MATTHEW 20:32

Jesus not only STOPPED as he was on his way to Jerusalem doing the Father's business but he wanted them to know they mattered, their voice mattered, their needs mattered, their desires mattered so much he **took the time** to engage with them.

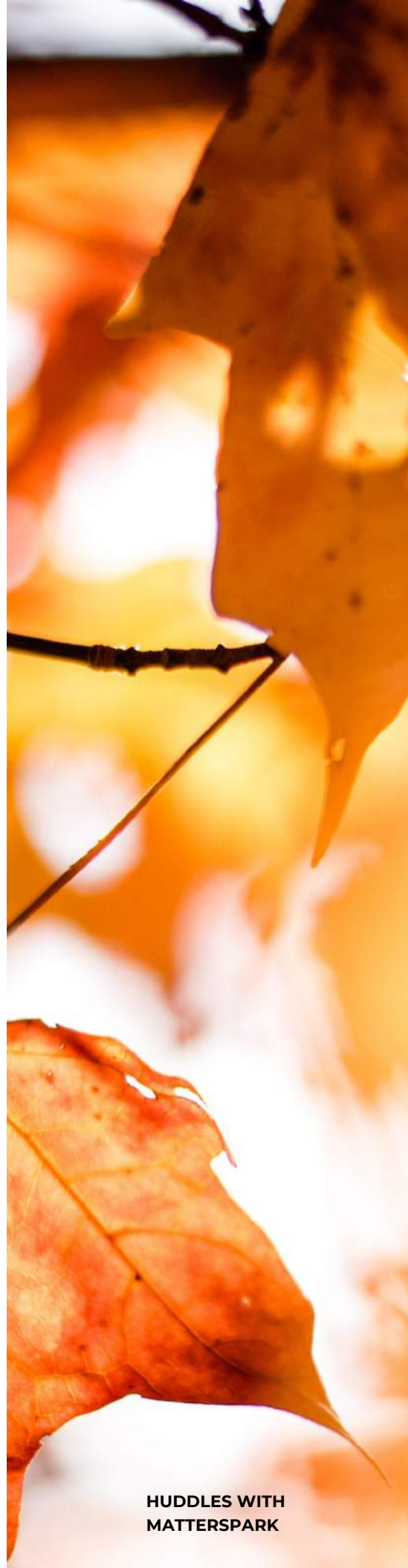
Of course Jesus knew what they would say. But Jesus demonstrated (even when traveling and "busy") that our prayers are to be brought to Him - anytime, anywhere.

He is never too busy.

And when we are standing in front of people, being the "Jesus with skin", we have the opportunity to display what Jesus taught.

When we find ourselves so busy running to and fro, serving and "about our Father's business", let's not forget to STOP when someone is looking for help and simply say:

"If there is anything I can do for you, please let me know
because
I have the time."



DEVOTIONAL

IT'S NOT ABOUT ME

"(SET UP: The only supplies you need are Q-tips! They are easy to find and not expensive. But if you can't get actual Q-tips, you can simply refer to them. Hand out a Q-tip to volunteers in Huddle as they walk in or have them with their name badges. They will ask: "What is this for?" Just smile and say, "It's personal...")"

When we get uncomfortable and all "hot and bothered" as Winnie the Pooh likes to say, it can seem like everything people say or do is either an attack against us, personally, or at the least, a disregard or simple forgetfulness that we exist and that our feelings matter too.

In Max Lucado's book, "It's Not About Me." He introduces how we all can tend to make everything about us!

"For our entire lives, we've been urged to look out for number one.
To find our place in the sun and soak it for all its worth.

But what happens when the sweet life we imagined proves to be sour?
When our expensive toy breaks, our work is no longer needed, and our bodies grow old and soft?

What's next when all our efforts to take care of number one leaves us feeling unsatisfied and the thrills we were promised turned up empty?"

As Max says: "We were not made to live this way."

"What would happen if we all took our place and played our parts?
If we started living like "Son" reflectors then individual stars and suns?
If every person's priority became a divine pursuit, not a performance?"

We'd see families differently.
We'd view our jobs differently.
We'd respond to our problems differently.
We'd find our place in the universe...finally.
And we would be changed. "

In JOHN 3:30 - John the Baptist got it right when he declared:

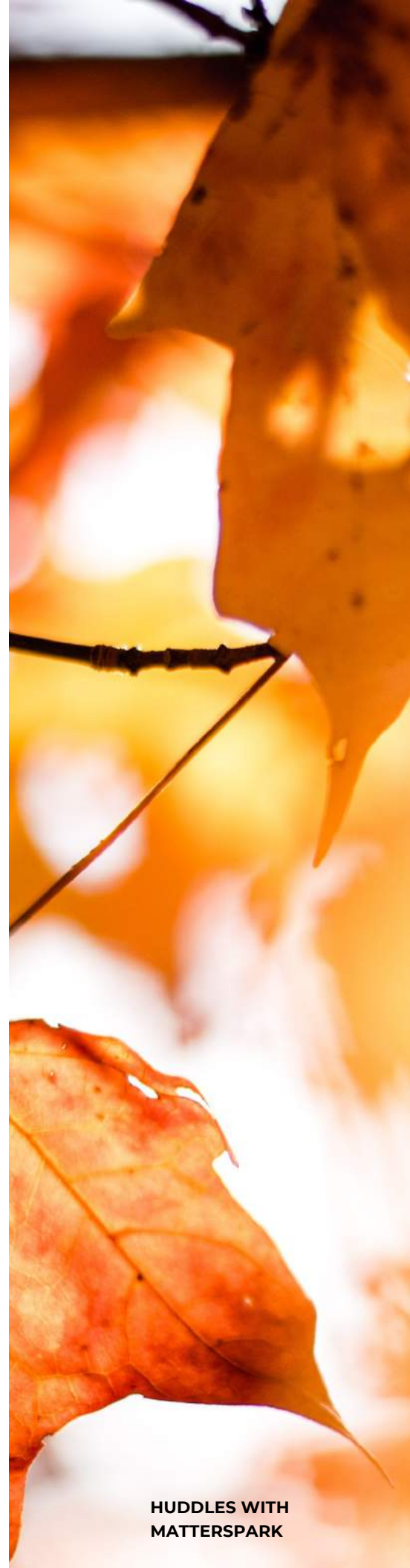
He must increase;
but I must decrease."
John 3:30

"It's Not About Me (Join me and let's say it together) It's not about me.
To help us remember, we can look at the Q-Tip: **Quit Taking It Personally!**

When we can look at another person and remember "it's not about me";
When we serve, at all the "whereevers" today and we become less so that
Jesus is all they see - we will win the day for Christ!

It's only personal when it comes to Jesus.

Everything else, we are to dust off, keeping the main the thing the main thing!



- FEATURED IDEA -

During the month of November, these Huddles provide the opportunity to show appreciation to volunteers and guests. They are themed around building a pattern, habit and awareness of gratitude.

"TODAY I'M GRATEFULL FOR."

These cards are to provide inspiration for a tangible exercise for volunteers to be included as part of any Huddle throughout the month!

Keep it simple! You don't have to use these cards. You can post it notes, index cards or even blank sheets of paper.



Keep it simple! Focus on the simple things:
A sunny day!
High-fived lots of kids!
Warm clothes!
Prayed with a volunteer!



Keep it simple! Ask for volunteers to share just ONE gratitude at Debriefs

