

Group Discussion Guide

Week of May 14, 2023

Ephesians 4:7-10 – Love Came Down

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- If you could have any superpower, what would it be, and why would you want it?
- Share a time you felt invisible, unseen, or like you were being pushed through a situation, but nobody really cared about you.

QUICK REVIEW

Looking over your notes from this past teaching... was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

MAIN POINT

Jesus became human so He could fully empathize with people.

DIGGING INTO THE WORD

Read Ephesians 4:7-10

Jesus leading captivity captive meant He was victorious over everything that seeks to hold us captive.

- What are some things that have held you captive in your life?
- How have you seen Jesus' victory give you victory over those things?
- Is there anything you are feeling held captive by right now that we could pray for you about?
- Since Jesus already won the victory, why can we feel like these things are still able to hold us captive?

Jesus became a human so He can empathize with all the struggles we face.

- How does the above truth impact you?
- What might cause us to sometimes feel like God/Jesus is far off and unable to understand our struggles?
- Why do you think God WANTED to become human and relate to us?
- Why do parents want their children to know they care about them?
- What happens to a child who thinks their parents are distant, not interested in their lives, and cannot empathize with their struggles?
- What happens to a person who thinks God is distant, not interested in their lives, and cannot empathize with their struggles?

Read – 1 Peter 5:6-7

- Why do you think God wants us to know He cares about us?
- How can it be a source of power for us to know that God cares about us?

Read – the story of Hagar running from her problems in Genesis 16:9-13

- What can make us want to run away from difficulties in life?
- Why is running away from difficulties not a helpful tactic?
- How can knowing, God sees you and cares about you, help you to have courage to face difficulties in life?
- Why might God call us, like Hagar, to return to a difficult situation we have previously run from?

CONSIDER - *Is there a difficulty that you have run from in the past that God may be calling you back to with the understanding that He sees your situation and cares about you?*

BRINGING IT HOME

Read Isaiah 41:10

- How does this verse encourage you to face difficulties and struggles in life?

PRAISE REPORTS & PRAYER REQUESTS