

HANDCRAFTED

ICEBREAKER

What are you reading right now?

SCRIPTURE

- **Leviticus 15:19-30** - Revealing the Gap
- **Matthew 9:18-22** - A Woman in Isolation
- **Romans 8:1-4** - Life in the Spirit

SUMMARY

We can put too much weight into what others say and think about us. Social media, other Christians, those who don't believe in Jesus—everyone has an opinion. Worse, we can be called a hypocrite, crazy, Jesus Freak, etc. We get attacked by our friends, our family, other Christians, Satan...anything to distract us from recognizing we are made on purpose with a purpose.

START WELL

- Read the scripture reference(s) and the discussion topics.
- Pray for your meeting and group.
- Be the first to smile!

END WELL

- Remind people to pray
- Update the prayer journal
- Give praise reports and updates
- Follow up with your group midweek

DISCUSSION

This week's discussion should focus on the idea of the gap between God's perfect way and our inability to fill that gap on our own.

Leviticus 15:19-30

There are a lot of laws and rules that needed to be followed.

- What stands out to you in this passage?
- Do you think it would have been easy to follow the law or hard? Why or why not?

Matthew 9:18-22

- What do you think it was like being in the crowds around Jesus?
- When Jesus stopped and tried to find out who touched his cloak, what do you think the woman thought at that moment?
- How do you think she felt after Jesus healed her?

It can be easy to think that God acts like everyone else: ready to judge, expectations based on mood, etc. The woman was ceremonially unclean according to God's Law.

- Do you think Jesus minded interacting with and even being touched by her? Why or why not?
- Do you think Jesus minds being approached by you? Healing you? Caring for you? Why or why not?

Everyone else says we don't measure up, and often it is for reasons that are real. We really do mess up sometimes, and then our self-worth and value plummet.

Romans 8:1-4

- What does Paul say we can expect if Christ is our master? Why is that significant?
- How does that feel?

If someone is willing to be vulnerable, you can go this route:

- What were you being condemned for that now you have life in Jesus?
- How did that redemption and grace come to you?