DISCUSSIONNOTES

5.26.20

Jamie begins his sermon by mentioning you cannot be both a friend of the world and a friend of God. Read James 4:4 and John 15:14. What makes people a friend of the world? What makes people a friend of God? What is the difference? Discuss.

Read **Joshua 1:9** and **Psalm 46:1**. Those two verses helped give Jamie comfort when he went through cancer. How do these verses make you feel? What verses help you through scary and tough times? Explain.

JESUS

Do you ever wonder how people make it through scary, stressful times without Jesus? Lots of people need Jesus' help. "Jesus loves every person, but His friends are people who obey Him." How can you be Jesus' hands and feet to someone who is going through a difficult time? Somebody defined compassion as "your pain in my heart." In what way can we be obedient to Jesus, in helping others with compassion? List three ways and discuss.

Jamie said, "Real faith always begins with the humble admission, "I am inferior to God. I don't have all the answers. I can't solve my problems on my own." I think pride is the biggest barrier to faith." Read **Matthew 18:3.** How does this verse correlate to pride? Explain. Why do you think people have an issue with pride? Do you think there is more to pride than just releasing control? Discuss.

"If we want God's help, we've got to believe He is real, He is good, loving, and He rewards people who come to Him." Read **James 2:23**. If we want God's help, we have to have faith. Read **Hebrews 11:6**. Faith is believing what you can't see or prove. Read **Hebrews 11:1**. Have you ever struggled with faith or has it come naturally to you? If someone were to ask you why you believe in a God you can't see, feel or touch, what would you tell them and why? Explain.

Read **Psalm 19:1** and **Romans 1:20.** Faith requires a personal choice and faith is measured by degrees and increased by action. Jamie talked about when you act on the faith you have, God gives more light so you can move past what you can see now. That is why faith and action are always connected in the Bible. Read **James 2:26**. Have you seen this analogy happen in your own life? Does this give you hope? Why or why not? What do you struggle with most about faith? Explain.

Real faith is always rewarded by God in His time. Read **Hebrews 11:6** and **2 Corinthians 4:16-18**. Close by praying for God to help you act on the faith you have and to open your eyes to One person who needs His love today, and to give you the courage to share it.