



THE GENIUS OF JESUS

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE



THE GENIUS OF JESUS: PART 3

Forrest Jenan – October 4, 2015

HANG OUT (warming up to the topic)

1. Take time to review this week's teaching and discuss your reactions. Talk about what most challenged, puzzled, and encouraged you.

HEAR (listening to God through Scripture)

2. Read Matthew 5:20-26.

Leaders Notes - Here is a quote to keep in mind as we try to understand the Sermon on the Mount.

"The Jesus of the Bible lives by a simple philosophy: If love guides our hearts, rules become redundant. Love, embraced as a guiding orientation of other-centeredness, will always lead us to do the right thing" – Bruxy Cavey, The End of Religion

Also, remember that "be reconciled" is best translated "make friends." Followers of Jesus, whenever possible, reconcile broken relationships, or we can simply say, make friends.

- What verse or idea stands out to you and why?
- What is the heart behind the letter of the law?
- How does our anger devalue another person?

HUDDLE (making it personal and praying together)

3. Who do you need to make a friend with (Be reconciled with) and how can we help?
4. Discuss the 5 Steps Towards Reconciliation (Making a Friend)
 - Confession: Own up. State what you did was wrong. No apologies just yet because it puts the burden on the offended and takes it off of you.
 - Compassion: Walk in their shoes. "I can imagine my actions made you feel..."
 - Repentance: Make changes.
 - Restitution: Repay what needs to be repaid: money, honor, etc.
 - Reconciliation: Now you apologize and begin the hard work of regaining trust and rebuilding the friendship.