

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Message Series: Love Can
Message Title: Love Can Unbind Us
Speaker: Jacob Salmans
Date: April 30, 2017

UP NEXT

- **LIFE GROUPS GAME NIGHT** - Come as a Life Group or come as a family and enjoy a fun night of games and competition. Popcorn Bar & Childcare is included. So bring your board games, card games, and winning strategy! We will also be giving away (2) free tickets to see Tim Hawkins in concert. See you this Friday night, May 5th at 7:00pm.
- **MEN'S & WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES** - We want you to stay connected this summer so we are offering Men's and Women's Bible Studies Wednesday evenings at the church. Each group will meet separately and will include hang out time, teaching time, and small group time. Childcare will be provided. All of this begins June 7 and will run from 6:30 to 8:00pm. Register and Purchase Books at reality.church/events.

MAIN IDEA

God's love sets us free to celebrate!

INTRODUCTION

- One of the things we definitely want to celebrate is that we were able to sponsor 267 children through Compassion International. WOW! So cool. That's 267 children who will get the same great news that Richmond Wandera shared getting last week as a child. That's 267 families who will rejoice together that they have a child who is sponsored. 267 lives that will be forever changed because of your love and your generosity. We are so proud of Reality Church and we hope you all are too.

DISCUSSION

- Have you ever temporarily lost anything of value? (*A Wallet, car keys, homework assignment, etc.?*)
 - What was your feelings when it was found?
- Have you ever permanently lost anything of value? How did that make you feel?
- Have you ever thought about God searching for you like you searched for your lost item?

- Have someone read [\(Luke 15:11-32\)](#)
- What was he communicating to his father by his request?
- What things in our current culture would represent life in the distant country today?
- Why was where the younger son found himself considered repulsive activity?
 - I.e. Jewish people saw pigs as unclean

- Have you ever had a time of "coming to your senses" and making a radical life change (broken law, flunking class, death in family, etc)?

- What's surprising about the way the Father actually greets his son?

- Do you relate to either of the brothers? If so, which one and why?
- Describe the character of the Father. What do you think Jesus wants us to see about himself and about how he sees us through this image of the father?
- Where would you say you are in your spiritual journey?
 - In a distant country?
 - At home but not feeling like a son/daughter?
 - Coming to your senses?
 - Partying with your father?
- What things are happening in the world today that require similar forgiveness?
- What things are happening/or have happened in your life that require similar forgiveness?
- Jake, stated that like the younger son, we are far worse than we ever imaged... but also like the Father, God is far better than we could ever think.
 - Does this give you comfort?

APPLY IT

- How can you show your neighbors that there is a spot for them in God's house, and there is a party awaiting them there?
- In the lobby we have stacks of 7 *Love Can* cards. They are blank on the back, and everyday, look for something to celebrate in those around you, write it on the back and give that to them. Pick a different person everyday and celebrate them.
- For those who identify with the Prodigal Son = Don't resist grace... Receive God's Grace
- For those who identify with the Older Son = Stop comparing your good deeds to the sins of others and enjoy God's grace.