



Closer: He Values Bodies/Week of October 11

1 LIFE engagement question

ONE aim: To see God at work in the relationships He has placed around us and join Him in His work. Praying for others in this and sharing stories builds our faith and gives us courage. Be patient and extend grace to one another as each one of you devotes yourselves to following Jesus' lead in your relationships. Everyone does not need to share each time you meet. Let God lead and do the work.

What has God been showing you about himself, about you and/or about others through your relationship with your ONE?

Scripture Study & Discussion

Read Psalm 139. Then return and re-read verses 13–15.

- *What messages have you received about your body that conflict with the way Psalm 139 describes God creating you?*
- *Why is it difficult to believe that our bodies are gifts when so much of our culture teaches us to criticize or change them?*
- *If our bodies matter to God, how should that affect the way we care for ourselves and treat other people?*
- *What changes when we stop thinking of the body as a distraction from spiritual life and start seeing it as part of how God created us to experience life?*

Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.

- *In the Old Testament, the temple was a sacred place where God's presence lived and where people went to worship Him. How does knowing that you are now that sacred place affect your daily mindset?*
- *In a culture that fiercely values individual autonomy ("it's my body, I can do what I want"), how does the statement "you are not your own" challenge modern thinking?*
- *What are some practical, everyday ways we can "honor God with our bodies" besides avoiding negative behaviors?*
- *How can a group or community support one another in honoring God with their physical lives without falling into judgment or legalism?*

Please Note: *These questions pertain to the Scripture used for the weekend-not necessarily the sermon content. The direction the speaker takes may vary. The Lord works in mysterious ways. So does Brian Mills.*