

ASKING FOR A FRIEND | WEEK 1: THE RELATIONSHIP QUESTIONS

FEBRUARY 17, 2019

SERMON STUDY

Dive deeper into this week's message and passages from the Bible. Here are some questions to help guide your group discussion.

The importance Jesus placed on relationships should change how we approach them. He didn't just teach others how to have healthy relationships, he modeled it with the way he lived. His example and teachings tell us a lot about relationships, and we can place all our relationship questions next to his answers.

Read John 13:34-35. Relationships with others all hinge on your relationship with God—talking to him, learning from him, hearing from him, sharing with him. Jesus tell us to love people just as he loves us because when we do this, we are showcasing God's love to others.

- How would you describe your relationship with Jesus? Personal, distant, or somewhere in between? Why would you describe it this way?
- Why is it so difficult to love others as Jesus loves you?
- In what way could loving others like Jesus loves you impact your relationships?

Read Romans 12:18 and Matthew 5:23-24. Relationships come with conflict, but when handled wisely, conflict can lead to healthier relationships. It's best to handle conflict quickly, with truth and grace.

- How well do you tend to handle conflict? Do you tend to run from conflict?
- In what way could you improve in the way you handle conflicts?

Read 1 Corinthians 7:12-16, 1 Corinthians 7:32-33, and Romans 5:10. Whether you are single, married, or facing broken relationships, no one and nothing else will ever be enough to fulfill you—only Jesus is enough.

- When believers and unbelievers date or get married, it can be like two people using the same cards to play two different games. Except, with your life, it's frustrating and unhealthy. What does the Bible's teaching in this area mean to you personally? If you're in a relationship now with someone who doesn't believe, how can our group pray for you?
- Singleness is a gift; it isn't a waiting block. Marriage doesn't make you whole. God made you whole in his image. Marriage doesn't fix anything, but it exposes everything. Have you ever thought of singleness or marriage this way? How does the Bible confirm or change your thinking?
- In what ways do you look to your spouse, yourself, or other relationships for fulfillment? What might change in your life, if you truly believed that Jesus is enough?

REFLECT

What is God saying to you through his word? How and when will you respond?

DAILY BIBLE READING

Need a review of what we're reading in Daily Bible Reading? Here's a glance at how we're being challenged this week. (Subscribe at: tpcc.org/dailybiblereading)

Day One: John 13:34-35 | Love others as Jesus loves you.

Day Two: Matthew 5:23-24 | Drop everything and be reconciled.

Day Three: 1 Corinthians 7:12-16 Showcasing God's love.

Day Four: 1 Corinthians 7:32-33 | Singleness is a gift.

Day Five: Romans 5:10 | Jesus is enough.