

Getting into Our LivesGroup time - 15 minutes

1. Do Jesus' healings make you uncomfortable for any reason? What about the idea of following and becoming like this Jesus in extending that same grace?
2. In your life, how has a relationship with Christ made a difference in feeling included or excluded from meaningful contact with others?
3. Do you ever feel like certain people are outside of Jesus' reach? How can you start claiming Jesus' authority over the people and situations that seem too far from God?

Getting Out the GospelGroup time - 5 minutes

Two Ways to Live (Steps 1 & 2) Visit www.twowaystolive.com

- 1 God is the loving ruler of the world.
He made the world.
He made us rulers of the world under Him.

Revelation 4:11 // *But is that the way it is now?*
- 2 We all reject the ruler – God – by trying to run life our own way without Him.
But we fail to rule ourselves or society or the world.

Romans 3:10-12 // *What will God do about this rebellion?*

Getting into PrayerGroup time - 10 minutes

Lord Jesus, help me to see the barriers you have overcome to forgive me and bring me in to your kingdom so that I may see the barriers preventing others and know that they are not too large or too difficult to overcome. Use me as your hands to reach to the unreachable, and bring the healing of heaven into their lives. Amen.

Transforming Power

Matthew 8:1-13

CS Lewis, *Mere Christianity*:

"Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to."

This King brings the transforming power of God with the healing of _____.

Isaiah 53:4-5, 2 Corinthians 5:17

This King brings the transforming power of God with the healing of _____.

John 17:1-3, Matthew 28:18-20

This King brings the transforming power of God with the healing of _____.

Psalms 107:1-3

I never knew:

I need to change:

I should share:

GROWTH GROUP QUESTIONS

Week of April 29, 2018

Getting StartedGroup time - 15 minutes

1. On a scale from 1 (“why shower when you’ve got the ocean?”) to 10 (“I don’t need cologne because I use scented hand sanitizer every 5 minutes”), how would you describe your need to be clean?
2. Have you ever felt like an outcast? From who? And why?
3. Who are the people that society considers dirty and ‘unclean’?

FOR GROWTH GROUP TIME

Getting into God’s WordGroup time - 40 minutes

Read Matthew 8:1-4

1. What is a leper? Why is it odd that a leper was part of the crowd?
See also: Leviticus 13:1-3; 45-46
2. How does the leper show faith in Jesus’ authority?
3. What is significant about Jesus touching this man to heal him? Beyond healing, how else does Jesus restore him?

Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-7

4. What does Paul call God? In what ways does God bring comfort to His people?

Read Matthew 8:5-13

5. What is a centurion? How were they viewed by Jews in Palestine at that time?
6. What reasons does the centurion give for Jesus to not go to his house?
7. What do those reasons reveal about his understanding of himself and of Jesus? What did Jesus think of his response?

Read Matthew 8:11-12

8. Who does Jesus say will enter the kingdom? What sort of healing are the rest of Jesus’ healings pointing us toward?

Read Isaiah 56:3-8

9. How would you explain God’s heart for all nations and people?