

Sermon Discussion Guide 2/10-2/16 VGroup Meetings

Sermon Title: Branded: His Love - Romans 5:6-11

Distribute name tags as people enter. Take attendance in FellowshipOne / collect new guest information including address, phone & email, etc. Allow folks to mingle, fellowship, and settle in with each other. Download/email resources from www.vgroups.org. Source for study guide, covenant, and more.

Open the session with prayer.

Discussion Starter/Ice Breaker: (15-20 mins)

Fun Discussion: What's your favorite "love song"? This could be from your HS dance days or something current that stirs up emotion in you when you hear it.

Discussion Questions: (30-45 mins)

1. Before digging in to the verses, take a minute to think about God & His Character. How do you view God? Write down a few descriptives that come to mind. Share them with the group.
2. Read Romans 5:6-11 together. What are the 3 ways God loves us? (focus points from sermon)
3. Read the following verses and discuss which focus point(s) they support. Identify & discuss characteristics of God. Compare those to the characteristics of man.
 - a. Ephesians 2:1-9
 - b. Colossians 1:19-22; 2:9-14
 - c. Romans 3:23-26; 6:20-23; 8:3-4
 - d. John 3:16-18; 8:34
 - e. Titus 3: 3-7
 - f. 2 Corinthians 5:17-21
 - g. 1 John 1:8-10; 4:7-14
3. Thinking about the above verses:
 - a. What can we do to earn God's love or favor? Earn Salvation?
 - i. How would/do you respond to a person who believes that they can "earn" their way into Heaven?
 - ii. How would/do you respond to a person who thinks that God is only looking over us in disappointment or that He is just waiting on us to mess up so He can scold or punish us?
 - b. Once we have accepted Jesus as Savior, what characteristic(s) should be evident in our lives?
 - i. Do you see these characteristics in yourself?
 - ii. Discuss ways that you can show/are showing God's love to those around you.
 - iii. Identify ways VillageChurch & this VGroup shows God's love to the community.
 - c. Which verse(s) caused you to stop & think for a minute or opened your eyes to something new that maybe you haven't thought about before? Share it with the group and how you see it impacting your life moving forward.
4. In the 1st question, you thought about God and wrote down a few descriptives. Do that again.
 - a. How has your list changed? Anything been removed from your list? Added?
 - b. Which items were supported by the verses we looked at today?
5. This semester, we are going to look at how to tell our story. As we continue thinking about our story, focus today and this week about how you have experienced God's unending love in your life. Briefly share your experience with the group.

Closing: Open the floor for discussion / questions.

Prayer Requests:

Close in prayer.

