



FOR THE WEEK OF: May 19th, 2002

TITLE: An Open Invitation

MEMORY VERSE: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes." **Romans 1:16a**

SERMON REFLECTIONS

1. Share with your group ways in which you and people in general can hear God. Read **2 Timothy 3:16, Romans 15:1-6, Joel 2:28-29, Acts 2:42, and Proverbs 15:22,23,32.**
2. People in our world today have "issues," they live in a "topic" filled world and they want answers. Go around the room and list the "issues" of our day. Invite people to hear how God has spoken to you about these topics.
3. Read **2 Samuel 14:14b.** What does this verse teach about the nature of God? When you think of God, what ONE word comes to your mind to describe Him? Read **Galatians 4:4-5** and **Romans 8:14-17.** How does the "Abba" concept shape your perception about God?
4. What is a MATTHEW Party? Pray about when and where your Small Group could host one. Plan one before the Evangelism Series is completed (June 17th). Be sure to read **Luke 5:27-32,** and then look at your sermon notes for a complete description.

DAILY READING (JOB)

5. What was the reason for Job's suffering? Some have said that the best thing Job's friends did was... (see **Job 2:13**)
6. Go ahead and read **Romans 12:9-21** and see what lessons you can learn in regards to counseling.

DIGGING DEEPER (from Stone Tablets – Is the Bible True?)

How do the following concepts help to defend the Bible as being the Word of God?

7. What are the issues of scientific accuracy?
8. What about the issues of the Bible's unique structure?
9. **Sermon Quote:** What is the most amazing miracle you have seen?

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."
1 Thessalonians 5:11