SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

EXPOSED V

Ruthless Love June 10, 2012



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. For all Rock Church events, please visit http://www.sdrock.com/events/.
- 2. Let your friends know that they can always live stream the Rock Church Sunday worship experience by visiting http://www.sdrock.com/live/.
- 3. We are currently in the process of rolling out our new Area Leader and Coach leadership team for the Small Group ministry. If you are interested in joining this team, our could use the benefits of having a Small Group Coach, please contact john.darrow@sdrock.com.

MEMORY VERSE

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." (Matthew 3:11 ESV)

"Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance." (Luke 15:7 ESV)

DISCUSSION STARTERS

(Use one or more of the following opening discussion starters)

- 1. Is it possible to be a Christian and still "live in sin?"
- 2. Do you know people that profess Christ, yet still refuse (or show lack of effort) to remove certain sin from their lives? Explain the situation to the best of your knowledge and how that supports or refutes your answer to #1 above.



SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS - RUTHLESS LOVE

Sermon Review and Introduction

On Sunday Pastor Miles briefly took us through the story of Zacchaeus as mentioned in Luke 19:1-10. Pastor Miles focused primarily on the need for us to identify the "Zacchaeuses" in our life, and to love them without placing judgment on them. In our culture it is very easy for us to place judgment on people without gathering the facts. We don't have to agree with their sin and lifestyle, but it is the grace we show toward them that will bridge the gap for relationship and open the door for proclaiming the gospel to them.

This week in our study we will build on this with the necessity of repentance away from sin and obedience toward Christ. Many acknowledge that "judgment" is bad, and often times it is, but sometimes it is actually necessary. When we acknowledge open and unrepentant sin in an unbeliever's life, we should not be surprised because they are ignorant of the gospel (Eph. 4:18). However, followers of Christ are not to remain in their sin, and in fact are called and commanded to acknowledge their brothers sin so that their brother will come to repentance.

The following questions will deal heavily with the topic of judgment and repentance rather then the breaking down of a certain text.

- 1. If necessary briefly review the lesson plan from Sunday and any extra notes you may have taken with the group.
 - Identify and describe any judgmental attitude toward loving the Zacchaeuses of the world.
 - ➤ Be willing and <u>available</u> to love a Zacchaeus.

Listen

| Add'l Notes: | | | |
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- 2. What do you suppose the difference is between "salvation" and "repentance?" Is it possible to have one without the other? Why or why not?
- 3. Read 2 Cor. 7:5-10 together as a group. Discuss what Paul mentions in regards to "godly grief" and "worldly grief." How did they react to his instructions in his previous letter? What do you suppose were the issues he was writing to them about and what was their response?



- 4. Read James 1:19-21 together as a group. When someone confronts you on an apparent error in your Christian walk what is your typical response? Do you get defensive or do you listen to the charge against you and consider what the person has to say?
- 5. Matt. 7:1-5 suggests that we be careful with our confrontation of sin. Is it our *right* to judge sin or is it our *responsibility* to judge sin? What is the difference and when we do exercise it? Passages to consider:
 - Exodus 18:22
 - Matt. 18:15-20
 - 1 Cor. 5:9-12

