Grow Group

5 Expressions of Love

**Lesson #3 - Love Informs Others**

**Story: John 3:1-11**

* **Tell the story, then re-tell it again by going around the room having each person give a sound bite of the story.**

**I.** One of the most common titles Jesus was given, was “Rabbi” or “Teacher”.

* **Mt.9:35** tells us that, *“Jesus* *went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.”*

What does the word “gospel” mean?

In **John 1:1 & 14**, we see that Jesus is referred to as the “Word” that became flesh. When God saw the need of mankind, He didn’t send an army, or a psychiatrist or financial planner, He sent the Truth.

 **i).** According to Jesus in **John 8:32**, what makes us free?

 **ii).** According to **John 1:14** **&** **John 14:6** who is grace & truth?

* **NB:** **John 14:17&26** tells us that the Holy Spirit is also known as our Teacher, the Spirit of Truth and Comforter It’s the work of the Holy Spirit that will help people understand and communicate truth. Rely on Him to help you and others.
* **Grace** is God’s unmerited favor and ability to make up for our weaknesses and inabilities. Grace to heal, save, rescue, restore, provide, protect, etc.

**iii).** According to **Rom.5:1-2**, what must we have in order to access God’s grace?

**iv). Read Rom.10:12-17**

 **a.** How does faith come?

 **b.** How does God intend for others to hear the good news about Him?(see Mk.16:15)

**v).** Why do you think Nicodemus came to Jesus at night?

Can you think of people like Nicodemus in your own life who are searching for truth?

How can you spot them? How can you make yourself approachable?

**vi). Read John 7:14-18**

**a.** What do we need to be careful of not doing when informing others?

**b.** How do we know what is of God and what is just our opinion?

**c.** What should we be prepared to tell people? (see also Rom.10:15)

* The truth is “good news”for the hopeless & helpless. Our information should encourage not discourage.

**vii).** **Read Eph.4:15**

**a.** Truth should be good news that doesn’t just point out a problem, but it addresses it! It should never leave people without hope, or feeling condemned. **Truth shouldn’t be about criticizing or fault finding!** It should be aboutoffering hope, when people are open to it. Be careful not to go around telling people what they should do. Give them hope in Jesus when you know they are receptive, and let the Holy Spirit do the convicting.

* Have you ever been around someone who only wants to teach you something? What’s your reaction to them?

**b.** How should we communicate truth to people? What does that look like and sound like?

**c.** Read the following passages: What should truth leave in people after we’ve communicated it?

* **Col.1:5** - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* **Rom.10:17** - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* **Rom.10:15** - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**d.** **Task:**  As a group, articulate the gospel of salvation for people to understand God’s love for them?

**II. Next Week**

**Love Heals Others - Read Mt.8:1-13**