

“Some Say . . .” Week 6

The ‘Friend of Sinners’ Jesus - Small Group Questions

Sermon reflection question:

1. In Sunday’s sermon, how did it impact you to hear that Jesus came to pursue and befriend the lost no matter how lost they are?

Getting to know you question:

2. Who brought you to Jesus? How and when did it happen?

Into the Bible questions: (Read Mark 4:1-20)

Lost people matter to God, so they matter to us. But how do we share Jesus with our friends? In this passage, Jesus compares sharing the gospel with farming. Looking at the good soil, there is a 4-step process involved in bringing in a harvest: Cultivation, Sowing, Harvesting, and Multiplication. Let’s talk about how these relate introducing Jesus to your friends.

Cultivating: The Presence of the Believer

3. How does a farmer cultivate the soil to prepare it to receive the seed?

4. God usually places caring believers in the lives of those he is calling. Why do you think he does this?

5. How is God currently using you to cultivate one of your friend’s heart to hear about Jesus?

Sowing: Presentation of the Gospel

6. The seed in this parable is the truth about who Jesus is and what he wants to be in our lives. How would you explain your relationship with Jesus to a friend?

Harvesting: Encouraging a meaningful decision of faith.

7. Beyond sharing your own story, what responsibility do you have in helping your friend to actually make a decision to follow Christ?

8. How do you know when to gently encourage, or when to challenge people to choose? (Joshua 24:15, Acts 2:38-40, Acts 26:28-29)

9. How do cultivating, sowing and harvesting engage the heart, the mind and the will?

Multiplication: The seed becomes many (Read John 1:40-42)

10. How was Andrew's sharing with Peter multiplied in the lives of thousands, even millions? How could your friend coming to Christ be multiplied "thirty, sixty for even a hundred times" in the lives of others?

Application question:

11. Who can you begin praying for now? How will you begin moving into their life in a way that will help them to know Jesus?