

YOU ASKED FOR IT 2018
WEEK NINE: ENGAGING LGBTQ
Luke 19:1-10, Matthew 16:24-26

NOTES:

Need space here...

1. See people as individuals
2. Put away the sin scale
3. Hold to Biblical convictions
4. Recognize the cost of discipleship

Questions for Community Groups and Individual Bible Study:

For Starters: What connections or relationships do you have with LGBTQ individuals or community? Share your views on how Christians and the church should engage with LGBTQ.

Quick Fire Round:

1. Read Luke 19:1-10. What can we learn from Jesus regarding reaching out to someone whose lifestyle is rejected by the mainstream religious leaders of the day? Take time to work through the passage making note of how Jesus treated and responded to Zacchaeus. Why is building relationships - *being willing to build bridges not walls* - essential to engaging not only LGBTQ, but all people?
2. Read Genesis 1:26-27, Genesis 9:6. What difference does it make that every person is made in the image of God? Why must we show dignity and respect to all people?
3. Read Exodus 20:1-18. Which commandments have you personally broken? How and why do we value some sins over others? Read Romans 3:9-12, 23, 6:23 and Matthew 7:3-5. When engaging LGBTQ, why are these verses important to remember and live by?
4. Read Matthew 16:24-25, Luke 14:25-33, Romans 12:1-2 and Philippians 1:21. What has it *cost you* to follow Jesus? Consider the extreme cost of coming to Christ out of an LGBTQ lifestyle. What should our and the churches response be?
5. Respond to the Rosaria Butterfield quote: *Hard is the new relevant, it is hard to share a Biblical worldview in a culture that calls it hate speech.* How can holding firm to Biblical truth and truly loving all people be the most loving action? How can we do this? Discuss.

Weekly Challenge: *The Gospel must come with a key. This does not fall from the sky but through God's people opening its doors and homes to all people.* Consider how you can engage with someone who has a different worldview than yourself starting with acts of hospitality and kindness and building relationships?