

appnotes

I ♥ MMY CHURCH

DAY
1

READ ACTS 17:16-34

Paul was a guy who loved people enough to meet them where they were. Notice how Paul was distressed over the fact that Athens was a city full of idols. He didn't approve of people worshipping the wrong thing, but he was able find common ground in a way that opened up a conversation about Jesus and the Gospel. We don't have to agree with the choices of others or even the culture we live in, but we can use it as a way to spark a conversation. What's the bridge that you can use to bring Jesus into the conversation?

READ JOHN 4:1-26

Loving people enough to meet them where they're at sometimes means doing what no one else will do. Just by his sitting down and having a conversation with this Samaritan woman, Jesus was committing social taboos. These two couldn't be more opposite, yet Jesus was able to change her entire trajectory by striking up a conversation around a glass of water. Imagine if Jesus passed up this opportunity because it wasn't the normal thing to do. An entire village would have missed the opportunity to come to the Messiah. Don't let what's perceived as "acceptable" stop you from making an impact upon the lives of people you interact with.

DAY
2

DAY
3

READ MARK 2:1-12

Here's an account of friendship in action. These friends sacrificed their time, energy, and dignity to get their friend in front of Jesus. So what caused this group of grown men to commit some major felonies? They knew that Jesus was the only hope for their buddy. They did for their friend what he could not do for himself. Who are the people in your life that need you to sacrifice something in order to bring them to Jesus. Don't let your comfort, security, or preferences get in the way of someone's life change. Don't be the people in the crowd throwing up a roadblock.

DAY
4

READ ACTS 15:1-19

Way too often we overcomplicate what it means to have a relationship with God. We get caught up in traditions and rituals that have so much personal significance to us that we lose sight of what's really important to God—people. In this passage, James says something profound. It's a message that we need to hold onto so we won't miss what really matters. In verse 19 he says, "It is my judgement therefore, that we should not make it difficult for Gentiles who are turning to God." The message of the church is for everyone; let's not create a culture that's an obstacle for anyone, especially for those who are trying to find the way back to God!

DAY
5

READ LUKE 10:25-37

Here's a story you're probably familiar with. An unexpected hero goes out of his way and gives of himself to ensure the recovery of someone who is considered an enemy. What is Jesus' point in telling this story? He is letting us know what it means to love someone. The good neighbor is the one who has mercy and doesn't give someone what they think the other deserves. Are you a person who is extending mercy or one who passes ignorant judgment? Jesus' command is to go and be like the one who showed mercy.

AppNotes are available on our Facebook page, Monday-Friday.

facebook.com/parkerhill.org