

Family Group Midweek Lessons

October 16, 2013



Minneapolis | St. Paul | Church of Christ

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Do You Want to Understand?

This Family Group Bible-Talk is intended to supplement the October 13th sermon at the MSPCOC. Although having attended or listened to that lesson is helpful, it is not required to take part in the following discussion.

Opening Questions:

- What are some of the things about Jesus that you most admire?
- What are some of the ways that you most want to be like him?
- What are some of the areas that, if you're honest, you don't always "want" to be like him?
- Today we will look at three interesting aspects of Jesus' character discussed in Hebrews 5. These are areas that can be difficult for us to want to be like Jesus

Read: Hebrews 5:1-4

Group Questions:

- How were most High Priests able to relate to the people?
- *Read Hebrews 4:15-16*
- How is Jesus able to relate to us?
- What are the benefits that we receive from him being willing to undergo temptation just so that we can see that he relates to us?
- Are you willing to sacrifice so that you can relate to the situation of others?

Read: Hebrews 5:5-7

Group Questions:

- Jesus was radically submissive and made no effort to use who he was to his own advantage
- *Read Philippians 2:5-6 (Read in either the NIV '11, the HCSB, or the KNT translations). Below is the NIV '11:*
*"In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:
Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage"*

- Jesus never used situations, circumstances, or his own identity for his own advantage. Can you say the same thing? What is so difficult about following this example of Jesus' character?

Read: Hebrews 5:8-10

Group Questions:

- *Jesus learned full obedience only through the path of suffering. This is what completed or "made perfect" his experience as a human.*
- *Read 1 Peter 2:20-25*
- How do you feel knowing that the path to becoming like Jesus runs right through sacrifice and suffering?
- *What about this passage in 1 Peter 2 do you find the most challenging for you personally?*

Read: Hebrews 5:11

Group Questions:

- What was the initial response of the original recipients of this letter to the ideas that we have examined today?
- What is the big difference between not understanding something and no longer trying to understand?
- You might want to stay together as a group but you might also choose to answer the following questions in smaller groups of men only and women only or groups of 2-4:
 - Is there any area of your discipleship that, if you're honest, you are in danger of "no longer trying to understand"?
 - If so, what are you going to do about it?
 - What can you do to help one another?

Final Thought:

- What will you have to change in your thinking to become more like Jesus in these three areas?



Inner Action Ministries