

Life Group Discussion Guide

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

WHY IT HAPPENED

ROMANS 5:8

Stuart Jones - March 12, 2017

the
final week

INTRODUCTION

God loves people. We can read numerous passages of scripture that tells us this. John 3:16 and Romans 5:8 are just a couple of examples. We all have experiences of how God has shown love to us or to our families. God loves people. In spite of our sin and disobedience, He still loves us. He loves us when we're messy, then He makes us clean. God didn't simply say the words, "I love you." He proved his love through Jesus giving his life for us on the cross. God doesn't love us because we fix ourselves. He loves us even in our sin and invites us into Jesus' righteousness.

DISCUSSION STARTER

1. Tell the group about a day that seemed to go by at a snail's pace or went by lightning fast. Time didn't speed up or slow down so why did the day feel that way to you?
2. Stuart said, "Of the 89 chapters of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John), 25 of those chapters are about these seven days. That's 28% of our information about Jesus' life on earth is confined to these seven days." Why do you think there is so much focus on those seven days?

EVALUATE IT

1. Answer the question Stuart asked, "Why did He give life and perfection (the garden) and companionship only to mankind?" Did His attitude toward mankind change after The Fall (Genesis 3)?
2. Do you trust God's love for you is ancient but is just as potent today as it was when He said, "It is good"? Why or why not?
3. Read or recite John 3:16. Two words stand out: world and whoever. What do those two words teach you about the love of God? What does that mean for us now?
4. Read Romans 5:8. In what tense is the word "demonstrates"? Is it past (over), present (currently active) or future (it will come some day)? What does that tell you about God's love?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. Stuart said, "We still have this attitude toward God's love that it's kind of out there and once we get ourselves right and start acting the right way, dressing the right way and doing the right things, then His love will come toward us." Is that the way you think? Why or why not?
2. Why do you think it is so hard for some people to accept/believe God really does love them and He really does care about them?

ILLUSTRATION

There is no other blessing I can give you, no gift so precious no treasure so refreshing, nothing that can provision you for the journey we are all making, than to tell you that Someone is searching diligently for you. He is not a stationary God. He is crazy about you. The expense to which He has gone isn't reasonable, is it? The Cross was not a very dignified ransom. To say the least, it was a splurge of love and glory lavishly spent on you and me: "While we were yet sinners, Christ died for the ungodly." "A shepherd having a hundred sheep, if he loses one, leaves the ninety-nine to go after the one and searches diligently until he finds it."

God is like that shepherd. That is enough to make me laugh and cry.

-David A. Redding, Jesus Makes Me Laugh with Him



Interested in joining or starting a Life Group?
Contact our Life Groups Minister.

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