

Following Jesus Through the Minefields of Culture

PASTOR DAVE GUILLES • JOHN 4:1-42

UNFORGETTABLE

ENCOUNTERS

WARM UP

What is something you'd like to have that you could reasonably possess one day?

COMING UP

GRACEPOLARIS.ORG/CALENDAR

College Spring Retreat Friday–Saturday, March 23–24, Home of Pastor Dustin & Lauren Speaks. Cost is \$10, due upon arrival. RSVP at GracePolaris.org/CollegeRetreat.

Men's Madness Friday, March 23, 6:30 p.m., FC. Guys, bring \$5 for the entry fee.

Palm Sunday Worship Service Sunday, March 25, 10:00 a.m. All believers are invited to communion immediately following the service. Bring a dish to share.

WITNESS

- On your white board, list the names of people in your sphere of influence you're praying will come to know Jesus.
- Share any progress/updates. Pray together for God to use you and your Grace Group to influence these people for Jesus.

EXPLORE

- 1 The Bible tells us that Jesus was fully human and experienced lack and need. He voluntarily experienced dependency, yet used this to connect with people. What are some ways you could choose to express your dependency in order to connect relationally with people?
- 2 Jesus took the initiative, even when it transgressed social expectations or customs. Are there cultural norms that keep you from taking relational initiative and experiencing significant connections with people? What are they?
- 3 Everyone plays by a social "script." What kinds of people does your "script" tell you not to interact with or to avoid?
- 4 We live in a "don't ask, don't tell" world when it comes to conversation about religion or faith, especially personal commitments. Good questions can pierce through those social barriers and open up new conversations. What questions do or can you use to introduce spiritual conversations which go below the surface?
- 5 What offer does Jesus make that most people you know — if they believed it to be possible — would really want to have?
- 6 Is Jesus an additive or a replacement of the life that people without Him experience? How does the presence and penalty of sin in every person affect how you answer that question? In what sense is the Gospel not "good news?"
- 7 Agree or disagree: Our calling is not so much to present the "plan of salvation" but the "person of Jesus." Why or why not? Is there a difference? How does this passage inform our answer?

PRAY

Pray for initiative and wisdom as you interact with those in your life who do not yet know Jesus.