It Starts with One Series Group Notes

Friend of Sinners | Week 5

Lost people aren't the enemy; they're the mission. Jesus was a friend of sinners, and He sends us to be one too, opening our lives and sharing our hope with gentleness and respect. Are you a friend of sinners?

Conversation Starters (10 minutes)

- What step have you sensed God asking you to take towards your “one?” Have you taken the step?
- How is God growing and challenging you through this series?

Sermon Notes Review (15 minutes)

What caught your attention, stood out to you, or challenged you from this weekend's teaching?

Watch the Video (5 minutes)

- Prepare to watch the video by opening your Bible to Luke 19.

Group Discussion (45 minutes)

Starter Question from the Video:

1. Where in your life can you be a light?

Scripture Observation and Interpretation:

2. Read Matthew 28:18-20. Jesus' last words are full of big words: *all* authority, *all* nations, *everything*, *always*. What do those words tell you about the size of the mission He gave us?
3. Read 1 Peter 3:15-16. In your Bible, circle the words "*gentleness and respect*" in verse 15. Why does the way we share our faith matter as much as the words we use?
4. Read Hebrews 13:2. The Greek word for hospitality, *philoxenia*, literally means "love of strangers." How is that different from the way most of us think about hospitality?

Personal Application:

5. Read Luke 15:1-2. Jesus' critics said he "welcomes sinners and eats with them." What would it take for people far from God to say that about us?
6. Is there an attitude toward people far from God that Jesus may be asking you to change?

Prayer (5 minutes)

Close your time in prayer. You can use your own words or these words:

Jesus, thank You for being a friend to us while we were still far from You. Give us Your love for strangers and the courage to open our tables and our lives. Help us share our hope with gentleness and respect this week. Amen.

Said yes to Jesus this weekend? Let us know at yes.sv.cc.

Ready to be baptized? Sign up at baptisms.sv.cc.

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For Group Leaders

SAVE THE DATE — All-Campus Group Leader Training Tuesday, January 12 · 6:30 pm · Gilbert Campus

- Any group leader, from a group you lead may attend
- Registration https://www.sunvalleycc.com/registration/grpleadertrainingjan2027
- **This week:** Who missed last week? Send a quick "we missed you" text before the weekend. Part of caring for one another is noticing when someone is missing and following up.

Heads up: Next week is our final week of Group Notes before Christmas. It will include a 15-minute "Looking Back, Looking Ahead" group health conversation, so plan your time accordingly.