

The Seven: Truths That Help Us Journey With Jesus - Neighbor

Thomas Thompson

Hebrews 13:9-16

February 10, 2019

Small Group Discussion Questions

One of the helpful truths is Neighbor

Neighboring is the intersection of community and being sent.

*What does 'neighboring' mean to you?

Read and discuss Hebrews 13:9-16 (NTE)

⁹ Don't let yourselves be carried off by strange teachings of whatever sort. The heart needs to be strengthened by grace, you see, not by rules about what to eat, which don't do any good to those who observe them.

¹⁰ We have an altar from which those who minister in the Tabernacle are not allowed to eat. ¹¹ For the bodies of the animals whose blood is taken into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sin-offering are burned outside the camp. ¹² That's why Jesus too suffered outside the gate, so that he might make the people holy with his own blood. ¹³ So, then, let's go out to him, outside the camp, bearing his shame. ¹⁴ Here, you see, we have no city that lasts; we are looking for the one that is still to come.

¹⁵ Our part, then, is this: to bring, through him, a continual sacrifice of praise to God – that is, mouths that confess his name, and do so fruitfully. ¹⁶ Don't neglect to do good, and to let 'fellowship' mean what it says. God really enjoys sacrifices of that kind!

*What is this passage saying to you?

*What is it saying about how we live with those outside the church?

The religious establishment wanted bigger walls; Jesus wanted a bigger table

We can focus on the boundaries, or we can follow Jesus.

*How have you seen or experienced this in the church?

*Why does focusing on boundaries prevent us from fully following Jesus?

Following Jesus wherever he goes is bringing a sacrifice

Our sacrifice is found in what we say and what we do.

*What does it look like to have 'mouths that confess his name' to our neighbors?

*What does it look like to do 'good and let fellowship mean what it says' to our neighbors?

When we are for our neighbors we let people teach us who they are

The best way to learn to love God is to love someone God loves.

*Where do you see God leading you in your neighborhood?

*What is scary about 'leaving the city'?