

Discussion Guide: Confronting Religion

Passage: Luke 5:12-32

Summary: As Jesus encounters three different people; the leper, the paralytic, and Levi the tax collector; Jesus meets ALL the needs of the outsiders and welcomes them as insiders; while the self-righteous "insider" religious leaders who don't have any needs become outsiders to the kingdom party.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. What did you notice the leper, the paralytic, and Levi the tax collector shared in common?
- 2. Why do you think it's difficult for many people to be honest about their neediness? Is it difficult for you? Why or why not?
- 3. How did Jesus meet the complex spiritual, relational, and physical needs of the three people in this narrative?
- 4. The main takeaway from this passage is that we must be needy with Jesus...because He came to help the "sick" or needy, not those who have it all together (the "righteous"). Do you think you are needy with Jesus? Why or why not?
- 5. Jesus often meets our needs by inviting us to take tangible next steps. He might be inviting us to ask for help from a friend, our community, a pastor or counselor. Are there any next steps you think the Spirit is inviting you to take to have your needs met?

Does anyone have a need they want to invite the community to pray for now? Close your time praying together.