

# Small Group Discussion Guide

“Make Room (pt. 1)” - 02.14.16

**Scripture:** Acts 11:19-30

**Bottom Line:** We work *from* acceptance, not *for* acceptance.

## INTRODUCTION/BREAKING THE ICE:

Icebreakers are a great way to get your group talking, laughing and learning more about each other. Use some of the following examples or come up with your own since you know your group best! What is your favorite CD/song at the moment? What was your most memorable birthday? What did you want to be when you were little? What is something no one here knows about you?

## UNPACKING THE GOSPEL

Last week we learned from our passage that, “Jesus + nothing = Everything.” The good news of the gospel is that salvation is absolutely free! This raises a great question. If I’m saved through faith, then where do works fit? Luke immediately tells a story about Barnabas as a great example of how true authentic faith will find great joy in obedience!

**Reads Acts 11:19-30**

**1) In verse 24 we learn that Barnabas was “a good man” = “man of good works”. What were some examples of his good works? Spend time unpacking each point and how we too can live out such good works in our daily lives!**

- a. Barnabas loved outsiders (least, last, and left-out). How can you do the same?
- b. Barnabas accepted God’s call wherever it led. How can you prepare your self to accept God’s call wherever it leads?
- c. Barnabas sought, saw, & celebrated grace in others. How can you find great joy in the grace in others?
- d. Barnabas poured himself out so other’s faith would grow. In what ways can you pour yourself out so other’s faith will grow?
- e. Barnabas was generous, giving & trustworthy with money. How can you be know as a generous and trustworthy person?

**2) If I’m saved through faith, then where do works fit?**

**Answer:** We live out our faith through good works *from* acceptance, not *for* acceptance! As a Christian, at your conversion, you were made completely spotless, clean, and fully forgiven of sins past and future. You are already fully accepted by the Father because when He looks at you He sees Jesus! That’s really good news! Therefore, we live out good works because there is great joy in obedience and it points others to enjoy this great acceptance from our great God!

## LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL IN MY EVERYDAY LIFE

**1) As a Christian, you are a child of the King of Everything! That’s awesome! Ephesians 5:1 says we are to imitate our Father. How can you imitate your Father’s grace, mercy, love, and care for others in your daily life?**

**2) Where do I need to make room in my life so that I can be filled with and fueled by the Holy Spirit and faith?**

**Answer:** Time, laziness, guilt, shame, pride, arrogance, ego, etc.