

Small Group Discussion Guide

“No LIMITS (pt. 1)” - 01.03.16

Scripture: Acts 8:9-25

Bottom Line: There are NO LIMITS to who God can change.

INTRODUCTION/BREAKING THE ICE:

Welcome to the new year! Before we move forward take time out to “break the ice” by having each small group member share what they did over the holidays and what was their favorite thing about Christmas in 2015!

UNPACKING THE GOSPEL

Have you ever heard or maybe you’ve thought about church, “If I go to church the whole place will burn to the ground?” It’s said as a joke, but there’s a serious question behind it: ‘Can I be so bad or so far from God that I’m beyond God’s limits?’ Or maybe you’ve thought, ‘my addiction has been so strong, I guess God can’t fix it.’ Or, ‘my marriage has been in such trouble, it’s a lost cause.’ Or, ‘my friend, neighbor, coworker, child, brother has been beyond defiant and antagonistic toward God. It’s over for them.’ Thankfully, no one is beyond God’s limits of grace and mercy!

Read Acts 8:9-11

1) What made Simon an unlikely recipient of God’s salvation?

(Answer: He was an egomaniac, self-centered, called, a “god,” by others)

Read Acts 8:12-25

1) Philip preached the “good news” and they believed! What is the “good news?”

Answer: Jesus (not religion or rules, but cross and resurrection); Grace; 2 Cor. 5:21

2) What do Peter and John do when they see there is still this selfish & sinfulness in Simon?

Answer: They explain that God’s gift is free- grace- explain the gospel. They call him to repentance and offer forgiveness

3) Does God’s grace have limits?

Answer: No! Not only are Samaritans not too far beyond God’s reach and gospel, but neither is a satanic, egomaniac, wanna-be-god. Do you see what this says about God and about grace’s limits? There is nothing that can limit God in giving grace and faith!

LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL IN MY EVERYDAY LIFE

1) Is there any area of your life where you have given up?

Where do you need to trust God to have NO LIMITS in changing that which you have given up on. Confess this things to your group and pray with one another.

2) Is there someone you’ve written off? Someone you thought was too far from God? Repent & call them today. Believe that the Gospel = power to change my heart towards “lost causes”.