

WHAT GOD IS REALLY LIKE

SERMON DISCUSSION WEEK 2

Quotable Moments:

- You can't live FOR God while living AGAINST those far from God.
- God is FOR those far from Him.
- It is hard to get life right when you've got God wrong.

Key Things You Heard:

- "What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." —A.W. Tozer, The Knowledge of the Holy
- It is tough for others to get God right when you've got God wrong.
- Jesus taught that God likes to throw a lot of parties.
- Parties reveal what matters most to us. What we celebrate shows what we value.
- It's not about what you've done. It's about the relationship I have with you.
- You INVEST in relationships and INVITE to environments.
- Personal question: Who is far from God but near to you?
- One invitation can lead to someone's transformation.

Pray: God, thank you for extending grace to me. Bring to my mind the people who are far from God but near to me. Help me to truly see them and to have a deep burden for them. I want you to use me to help _____ experience your grace. I choose to live with your heart FOR those who are lost. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Moving Forward:

- Read Luke 15 daily for the next week.
- Memorize Luke 15:7
- Commitment: I will invite _____ unchurched people to come sit with me on Easter. (Use the invite gift provided on Sunday)
- Re-watch and/or share the sermon with a friend. Go to rivertown.cc or the RCC App.

Questions for Group Discussion:

First Minutes: Do you prefer throwing a party or having a party thrown for you? How do you respond when you are surprised by a party?

- Paul said that Jesus taught that God likes to throw parties. How does that change your view of God?
- Read Luke 15:3-7. Identify the words that show God's excitement in throwing a party. Imagine how those listening to Jesus would have reacted, given they saw their religious leaders as staunch and legalistic?
- Read Luke 15:8-10. Describe the varying emotions in this story. What does this reveal about God's heart for the lost?
- Paul said, "If you're going to become the kind of person who celebrates what God celebrates and extends grace the way He does, then there's a price you have to pay." What might that cost be for you?
- Our challenge is that you Invest in relationships and Invite to environments. What will acting on that this week cost you?
- In your group prayer time, pray for specific people who are far from God. Remembering confidentiality, write the names down and commit to pray daily for them.
- (As a group, challenge each other, and consider doing a prize for the person who personally invites the most unchurched people for Easter)