



FOR

SERMON DISCUSSION

Why FOR?

Quotable Moments:

- The church is not a meeting place. The church is a movement.
- God is love. God loves everybody. Everybody matters to God.

Scripture: Luke 7:36-50, John 3:16, Romans 5:8

Key Things You Heard:

- Jesus didn't claim to have the best explanation of God. Jesus claimed to be the best explanation of God.
- Jesus was the model for this statement: God is love. God loves everybody. Everybody matters to God.
- Jesus elevated the dignity of the individual through His interactions with them.
- While we may be criticized for what we believe --
- we should be famous for how we are FOR everyone.

Pray: Jesus, thank you for modeling a life of being FOR everyone. I continue to be challenged by your love and grace shown to me, and that motivates me to show love to others. Help me not to turn away, or look down on others. Help me, like you, to elevate the dignity of others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Moving Forward:

- Memorize Romans 5:8
- Ask someone this week: What can I do, FOR YOU?
- Re-watch and/or share the sermon with a friend. Go to rivertown.cc or the RCC App.

Questions for Group Discussion:

First Minutes: Was there anyone (or any group of people) that Jesus struggled to love? Name a difficult person that He took action to be FOR?

- When you hear this statement: "God is love. God loves everybody. Everybody matters to God.", are you tempted to put a "but..." after it? Why?
- What group(s) of people do you struggle to be FOR? Do your stereotypes become a barrier to love? Have you ever changed your mind about someone after you truly got to know their story?
- Have someone summarize the story of the woman in Luke 7. What is significant to you in this story? Why do you think Luke includes so many details about this interaction with Jesus?
- Read Luke 7:44-48. If you had been Simon, what emotions would you have felt? What was Jesus trying to teach his disciples?
- Read Luke 7:50. How did Jesus' response to the woman contrast with what she was used to hearing from everyone else?
- Read Romans 5:8. How does knowing God's love was demonstrated "while you were still a sinner" make you feel? When we fully understand it, how can that help us show love to everyone?
- Think of someone you will take action to be FOR this week? If appropriate, share a name so the group can be praying. Then ask each other about them next week.
- As a group, talk about some ideas of how your group could SERVE together. Stay tuned for ideas on October 30th.