

90: JESUS AND THE DISENFRANCHISED

INTRODUCTION

We all have a natural tendency to surround ourselves with people who *like* us. Whether we're geeks, jocks, hipsters, Democrats, or Republicans, we surround ourselves with people who *are* like us. But what is the cost of isolating ourselves from those who are different?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Who was your crew growing up? Were you an athlete, in the band, part of the drama club, or some other group? How did being in that group influence how you viewed yourself?
2. Talk about a time when you felt left out. How did you respond?
3. Read John 4:1–26 aloud together. During the message, Rob said the way Jesus treated the woman at the well demonstrated how God feels about all people. Is that difficult for you to believe? Why or why not?
4. What are some of the things that inform the boundaries of your table? How do you decide who you surround yourself with?
5. Is there a person or group of people you need to get curious about and begin to ask some questions? If so, what questions would you ask that person or group?
6. Watch the Moral Circle video at groupleaders.org/moral-circle. What is one thing you can do this week to expand your moral circle to include people who would normally be on the outside? How can this group encourage you and hold you accountable?

MOVING FORWARD

We like people who like us and who are like us. The problem is, Jesus didn't do that and he wouldn't like that. When you have compassion for those who aren't in your bubble, you learn something about them and yourself. Your view of God gets bigger when you make room at your table.

WEEKLY READING

Spend some time this week reading and reflecting on John 4.