

Jesus-Centered Family on Mission

Week 5: Winsomely Weird

Primary Passage: Romans 12:14-16

Related Passages: Matthew 5:14-16, 10:25; 1 Peter 2:21-23

In virtually all the ancient cultures of the world, the power of the gods was identified with the elites of society: the kings, priests, and military captains, not the outcasts. To oppose the leaders of society, then, was to oppose the gods. But in Israel's rival vision, it is not high-ranking males but 'the orphan, the widow, and the stranger' with whom Yahweh takes His stand. His power is exercised in history for their empowerment. So from ancient times, the God of the Bible stood out from the gods of all other religions as a God on the side of the powerless, and of justice for the poor.

Vinoth Ramachandra, summarized by Tim Keller

LifeGroup Study Guide:

Read and Recap: Have someone read **Romans 12:14-16** and recap the highlights from this week's sermon.

Gospel Reflection: This week we discussed 5 lamps/aspects of God's love for us that the city on a hill is called to show to the surrounding world:

1. Love blesses people regardless of how they treat you.
2. Love enters into people's world regardless of their circumstance.
3. Love makes peace with people regardless of their conflict with you.
4. Love embraces people regardless of their social status.
5. Love humbles itself before people regardless of their disagreement with you.

Think of specific ways that Jesus has shown these five aspects of love to you. Take some time to praise God for the good news of God's love together as a group.

- Which of these aspects of love comes most naturally to you? Which seems the most difficult for you to offer to others?
- What specific practical applications stood out to you? How can we encourage you as you repent and walk in obedience this week?

Pray that the light of our church family would shine brightly and point others in Columbia to Jesus. **Pray** that your Lifegroup would strive to bless, be with, make peace with, embrace, and listen to one another and those with whom they are on mission.