

Small Group Questions, October 2, 2016

Topic: Welcoming Strangers/Becoming Family

Key Passages: Matthew 5:43-48; 15:1-7; 25:31-40; Leviticus 19:34; Hebrews 13:1

*Group leaders, remember, it's not necessary to ask every question. Feel free to modify this list by taking out questions that don't speak to you or adding your own questions.*

1. What are the things/feelings/fears that keep us from truly welcoming strangers and newcomers at times?
2. In Leviticus 19 God commands the Israelites to love the aliens in their land because they were once aliens in a strange land too. How does this fit with who we are as Christians today?
3. Think about Matthew 5:43-48. We often talk about loving our enemies, but with that Jesus talks about how we greet/accept those who aren't our "brothers and sisters." What do you think Jesus point is in this passage?
4. Hebrews 13:1 talks about entertaining angels (God's messengers) unknowingly through our practice of hospitality. Is this supposed to affect how we view those we come into contact with? What do you think the practical application of this passage is?
5. In the parable of the sheep and goats it is how we treated the people around us that determined the fate of our judgement. How is this different than how we normally think about God's judgment?