



Being Right with God

Ice Breaker: If you could have any famous figure at your Thanksgiving table (Dead or alive), who would you choose?

Read Together: Matthew 5:1 (ESV), Matthew 5:17 (ESV), Matthew 5:18-20 (ESV), Matthew 23:25-26 (NIV), Matthew 23:27-28 (NIV)

Discuss:

- Does your righteousness exceed that of the Scribes and Pharisees?
- What point was Jesus trying to get across when he talked about the cup and the dish?
- What was the point of the Law of Moses?

Read Together: Matthew 5:21-22 (ESV), Matthew 5:27-28(NIV)

Discuss:

- Why do you think Jesus takes the commands of the law and bumps them up a notch? He comes back around to show us that our self-righteousness is empty.
- What is Jesus trying to get our focus to be on?
- A person's right standing with God will never be achieved by what they DO!! Is this frustrating or freeing for you?

Read Together: John 1:12-13(NLT), 2 Corinthian 5:21 (NIV), Philippians 3:9 (NIV)

Discuss:

- What is the requirement for being right with God?
- When Jesus took our sin, what happened to our Identity?
- The righteousness that comes from God is based on what?
- We are functionally sinful at times, but what is our positional identity?
- Who gives us our righteousness?
- Everything from the beginning was working toward the reality of Jesus's coming. God's plan has always been to set all men free!! Let that sink in for a few minutes, and share any thoughts with your group!
- We must be MADE righteous; we cannot ACHIEVE righteousness. How do you see yourself in God's Kingdom?

Prayer:

God, you find me in Jesus. Because I have made a confession of Faith, you now see me through the filter of Jesus and His righteousness given to me. Please help me to live from my position of righteousness. Help me to respond to this extravagant gift by living empowered by your Spirit. I need you to help me show the world how you see me! Please give me an awareness of my identity in Christ and help me to rely on your Spirit throughout my moments today. In Jesus' name, Amen!