



Unpopular Opinion

Week 2 - Don't Like Your Neighbor Discussion Guide

How are you supposed to treat people who aren't exactly like you? If you don't agree with their opinion, their lifestyle, or the activities they take part in, what do you do? Our natural reaction is to shut them down or block them out. That will solve all our problems...right? Jesus had another idea: Love others even if they are fundamentally different than you.

1. Describe a time when you or someone you know realized "it's not all about you."
2. What are some of the things that get you "fired up" about today's culture?
3. There is absolute truth. What does the word "truth" mean to you? What does it not mean to you? Where do you go for the source of truth?
4. We are all image-bearers. Have you ever worked for a company or attended a school that had an "image", or a specific way they wanted to be reflected?
5. It's easy to forget that **everyone** has been created by God. But if we are going to truly embrace the commitment to love our neighbor, we must remember that. Have you ever forgotten to treat someone like they are valuable in God's eyes?
6. When we decide to live from purpose, and not from preference, THEN we can begin to impact our communities. Love is what leads to influence. Discuss in your group who in your life needs to feel God's love for them, and how you can be that part of his or her life even if they live a different life than you do. Take a moment as a group to pray for those people.
7. Final Thought: "Here's another way to put it: You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll

prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven” Matthew 5:13-16 (The Message).