



Dig Deeper @Home – “Letters to Finland”

Complement to lesson on 05/30/21 – “Letter to Finland from Dan Emr”

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. Name a few people that you deeply trust. Why do you trust them?
2. Do you tend to be an optimist or a pessimist?
How would OTHERS answer this question about you?

MEMORIZE – 2 Corinthians 3:2-3

You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all. And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

READ John 4:46-51

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What does the Holy Spirit draw your attention to as you read this passage? What sticks out to you?
 - a. What general observations can you make? Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared?
2. How does this passage point us to Jesus?
3. The official in John 4 showed in several ways that he had faith that Jesus could and would heal his son... list a few here. There are several points in the story where the official could have given up hope, but he didn't! Are there difficult circumstances you are going through where you must persevere in faith?
4. The distance from Capernaum to Cana is about 20 miles, approximately a two-day journey by foot, yet Jesus did not need to make the trip to heal the man's son! Distance is no match for the Lord of the universe. What is on your heart that you have been neglecting to petition God for because it seems "impossible?"
 - a. Take a look at these Scriptures to remind yourself that we serve a God who makes the impossible, possible! (Matthew 14:13-21 / Jeremiah 32:17 / Exodus 14 / Ephesians 3:20-21)

Experiential activity – Fix Your Eyes!

When we go through difficulty or trial, we can be tempted to focus on the chaos around us instead of keeping our eyes on Jesus and his kingdom. 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 reminds us...

“For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.”

This week, take a set of self-adhesive “googly eyes” (available at your local craft store) and stick them somewhere you won’t be able to miss them to remind yourself to “fix your eyes” on Jesus! Choose a location like the dashboard of your car, the mirror where you get ready for work or school, or a computer monitor... Notice how fixing your eyes on Jesus gives you a right perspective!



SING (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!)

Hillsong Worship: This I Believe (The Creed) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nNiYUPsHgls>

Bonray : Turn My Eyes - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sHTvdfdPC04>

Skillet: Brave - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4A3NqfV994k>

For All Seasons : Light & Momentary - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZDubgXKjksk>

When We Walk with the Lord - (Mennonite Hymnal #577)

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Father, thank you for removing my heart of stone and replacing it with a heart of flesh. Guide me by your indwelling Spirit to walk in your decrees and obey your laws. (Ezekiel 36:25-27)

Shape me into what you would have me be, and may my life be an open letter to all who cross my path so that I may be a faithful witness to Jesus, my Lord and King. (2 Corinthians 3:2-3)

Amen.