## Jack & Jill – Decisions Under a Tree

Weekend Discussion Questions February 23-24, 2013

## Community:

1. This weekend Jim said, "This might make sense to some of you...and sound weird to the rest of you...but under a certain tree in South Sudan...I hear God better." Are there places that you feel more connected with God? Hear Him better? Why do you think that is?

## Core:

- 1. The Bible clearly shows that we were created to 1) be in relationship with God; 2) do good works; 3) give glory to God; and 4) receive an abundant, better life. Which of those things are harder for you to do? Why?
- 2. Somewhere along the way, the first man and woman, and every man and woman after them, decided to carve out our own path—to try to figure out what we think a better life is. What's one instance of when you've had to trust God's plan for your life over what you had been chasing after, thinking it would bring you a better life?
- 3. Read John 10:10. What do you think "life to the full" or an "abundant life" looks like in God's eyes?
- 4. Have you ever seen a person who lived an abundant life in God's eyes? What were they like?
- 5. When John 10:10 says the enemy comes to steal, kill, and destroy—how do you see Satan trying to steal, kill, and destroy in your life or the lives of the people you love?
- 6. Sometimes we view sinful behavior as when we do something "bad"...but the Bible redefines sin in James 4:17. How does it redefine sin?
- 7. How would our lives change if we thought of sin not as bad things that we did, but instead good things that we didn't do?
- 8. To close up the series on the woman at the well, read John 4:35.
- 9. Here's how that verse can be applied: "Four months more and then the harvest" means that some things take a long time before they're ready, and you can't rush it, force it, or hurry it. On the other hand, "The fields...are ripe for harvest" means that there are some things that need to be done *right now*. What's an example of something in life that you can't rush, force, or hurry? What about something in life that needs to be done immediately?

## Challenge:

- 1. What has God been telling you is right and true and better when it comes to the relationships in your life?
- 2. Is there something in your life that you've been trying to rush that really just needs some time? On the other hand, is there something that you need to act on right now?