

Kingdom – Dogs and Pigs

Weekend Discussion Questions

June 13/14, 2015

Community:

1. Have you ever had a conversation about Jesus that ended up with everyone mad at each other? What went wrong in that conversation?
2. As we have been going through the Sermon on the Mount, what has been your biggest take away? What in your heart have you had to examine?

Core:

1. Read Matthew 7:6. What do you think Jesus is talking about here?
2. Dallas Willard says this about Matthew 7:6, *“The problem with pearls for pigs is not that the pigs are not worthy. It is not WORTHINESS that is in question here at all, but HELPFULNESS. Pigs cannot digest pearls, cannot nourish themselves upon them. Likewise, for a dog with a Bible or a crucifix. The dog cannot eat it. The reason these animals will finally turn and tear you to pieces when one day you step up to them with another load of Bibles or pearls, is that YOU at least are edible.”* If you think back, have you ever been forceful about Jesus to someone, even when you had the best intentions? What happened?
3. What are the consequences of truth without grace? What about grace without truth?
4. Read Matthew 7:7. How does this verse say we should talk with people about Jesus? Have you ever done it this way and had success?
5. Read Matthew 7:12. What would it look like to actually treat people the way Jesus would treat them?
6. In what ways have you recently not treated someone how Jesus would have? What happened?
7. Look at your answer to question 6. What would Jesus do if He was in your position now?
8. What does eternal, intimate life with God look like for you right now? What changes in your life if you interact with Jesus now, not just waiting for eternity?

Challenge:

1. Jim outlined what our approach to relationship should be (below). How does this approach play out in your life? What needs to change so your approach aligns with this?

Ask - ask them!

Seek - understand!

Knock - see them for who they are; go inside their life!

2. What can you start doing right now to treat others how Jesus would treat them?



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