

Missionary Position – A Shepherd, a Woman, and Two Sons

Weekend Discussion Questions

February 22-23, 2014

Community:

1. What does the missionary position mean? (in the context of a church sermon series!)

Core:

1. What does it mean to take the “missionary position” to the world, both to our current social circles as well as to people all the way across the world?
2. Have everyone in the group tell about some time that they took the position of a missionary with someone in their life.
3. Today we’re going to look at three stories where Jesus talks about God’s attitude towards the lost and broken people of the world. They are the stories in Luke 15 of a lost sheep, a lost coin, and a lost son. Have three different people in your group summarize a different story.
4. To see why Jesus tells these stories in the first place, look at Luke 15:1-2. Why do you think the Pharisees and Scribes hated that Jesus “receives sinners and eats with them”?
5. Look through the first two stories, in verses 3-10. What do these stories tell us about God?
6. Jim made two statements this weekend: “There is usually a reason that lost things are lost” and “Lost things rarely become found things on their own.” How do these statements relate to the people in your life who don’t know God?
7. Jesus closes up the three stories with the story of the Lost (Prodigal) Son. Read Luke 15:11-13. Why do you think the son did this?
8. Now read verses 14-16. What’s a modern-day equivalent for where this guy was at?
9. What do you think that he was thinking at that moment? Read verses 17-19. What type of a welcome do you think he thinks he’s going to receive?
10. Now read verse 20. What does this verse show us about how God cares about the lost and the broken?
11. Finish up by reading verses 21-28. Why does Jesus talk about the “other son”? How does the Father’s message to the older son relate to what Jesus was telling people who were currently followers of God?

Challenge:

1. Which son do you relate with more? Why?
2. Who in your life represents the lost son? What can you do to show that person God’s reckless love for them?