

Missionary Position – The Cost of Taking the Missionary Position

Weekend Discussion Questions

March 8-9, 2014

Community:

1. Have you ever gone on a day-long or short-term mission trip, either to a foreign country or somewhere local? Tell the group about it.

Core:

1. If you were telling a friend about the series your church is doing called the "Missionary Position", how would you explain it to them?
2. As we've looked at how Jesus took the missionary position in Philippians 2:5-8, what sticks out to you about those descriptions the most?
3. If you had to describe the position that you normally take when Jesus tells you to do something, how would you describe it?
4. In the story we'll look at in Luke 14, some Pharisees invited Jesus to dinner. What were some of their motivations for inviting Him to dinner?
5. Read Luke 14:1-6. What is Jesus trying to tell the Pharisees with this illustration?
6. Skip down to verse 15. Why does the man say what he says?
7. Now read verses 16-20. The banquet stands for a relationship with Jesus (and having a better life by doing what Jesus tells us to do). What are some of the excuses people use to not obey Jesus?
8. Now read verses 21-24. Why would Jesus open things up to the people nobody else wanted?
9. Jim said, "The level of intimacy of our relationship with God is most certainly revealed and impacted by what we do and don't do." How have you seen that work in your own life?
10. Read verses 25-26. Jim qualified it by saying, "The most loving thing you could ever do for the people in your life that you love most is to first hold onto Jesus." How does that tie in with what Jesus said? How is it better for those we love if we love Jesus more?

Challenge:

1. The series could be summed up with three verses in Luke 9. Take some time to look at each, and then talk about what you need to adjust in your life to what Jesus says:
 - a. Luke 9:23
 - b. Luke 9:24
 - c. Luke 9:25