

God's Fix for a Broken World

Judges 2-8; 1 Samuel 3:1-11

God's plan for His people was never to create a religion. It was for His people to _____ to a lost and broken world the abundant life in community with one another and in communion with God; to show the world the lives for which we were created.

Discussion 1. How does the above statement about God's plan for us (His people) make you feel? Does it bring clarity? confusion? or conviction?

Abiding in Christ was never intended to be some lofty platitude that we aim for but never hit. Rather, it is a _____ of _____ for Christ followers every minute of every day. We can abide in Christ or in the ways of this world, but we cannot do both.

Discussion 2. For you personally, what are some examples of "abiding in the ways of this world"? How is abiding in Christ different?

The highest and most desperate need in a lost and broken world is hearts transformed by _____. The world's secular, social and political solutions have fallen short and always will. We need Truth.

Discussion 3. The world needs God's people to be "speaking the truth in love". What is the danger of speaking truth without love? What is the danger of love without truth? Which of these traps are you more likely to fall in?

For any Christ follower, the pathway to spiritual maturity and influence is necessarily through _____ with other Christ followers. God planned it so from the beginning.

Discussion 4. Over your lifetime, what people have helped you better hear from God? Would you describe that as a benefit of living in community with God's people? Why or why not?

Discussion 5. How does this lesson cause you to pray? How does it prepare your heart for worship?