

Review:

Lesson 1: Breaking Ground

Lesson 2: Begin with Identity

Lesson 3: Building Community

Lesson 4: Spiritual Authority

Touching the Untouchables

Mark 1:36-45

Sitting and basking in the comfort of the familiar is a distortion, not a tenet, of Christianity. It is in our DNA to move on from our successes and to _____ to where the real needs lie.

Discussion 1. Why do you suppose “going out and being the church” is sometimes so difficult for us to grasp? Do you think it is realistic for us to think our culture’s “untouchables” will actually come into our church?

The same creator God who fashioned the universe is in the business of destroying our preconceived notions of what ministry should look like. Following Christ will lead us to _____ and _____ we never would have imagined.

Discussion 2. Has following Christ yet led you to people or places you never would have imagined? If so, share an example.

It may not be immediate, and it is never conditional, but Christ followers meeting the physical needs of people is almost always a means to a greater end: _____, _____ and _____ wellness.

Discussion 3. As Christians meeting the human needs of people in our community, why is it important to be reminded WHY we are doing it? What’s the danger in losing sight of the larger purpose?

A decision on our part to touch the untouchable people in our community, to help those who are hurting, requires a willingness to be _____ in the process. Not everyone we help will respond the way we want.

Discussion 4. If I am easily offended by how people I help have responded, what does that say about my motives for helping them in the first place? Has this ever happened to you?

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