



DISCUSSION GUIDE WEEK 2

WELCOME / OPEN IN PRAYER

WARMING UP

- Last week's sermon, devotional book, and small group guide directed our attention toward creating margin in our lives. What is one tangible step you took to creating margin (doing less)?
- On the flipside of doing less, were you able to focus or do more in specific areas? If so, describe.

REVIEW THE GUIDELINES FOR SHARING

CONFIDENTIALITY • LISTEN • PAUSE • SILENCE • NO "CROSS TALK" • NO FIXING • NO RESCUING
SHARING • SELF-AWARE • "I" STATEMENTS • FIGHT FOR RELATIONSHIP

LINK TO SUNDAY'S MESSAGE

The sermon described righteousness as a vehicle God uses to act toward us in love.

Righteousness in our lives is intended to be an extension of God's mercy and justice. But when righteousness gets stuck, we wind up with self-righteousness.

Read Matthew 9:9-13 and envision this interaction from the vantage point of each of the characters; Matthew, tax collectors & sinners, disciples, Jesus, and Pharisees.

DISCUSS

- In the message, a distinction was made between living on a *platform* or living as a *pillar*. Describe how you are pressured to live your life on a platform—as a way to display your rightness or your fame, etc. How is living as a *pillar in God's temple* (Rev 3:12) a way of displaying righteousness?
- The message highlighted three dangers of self-righteousness: missing the celebration of changes lives; missing the impact of righteousness in our city; and missing the curiosity of following Jesus. Which one resonates with you more? Describe your thoughts.

CLOSING

- What is going to change for you in response to what you've learned and discussed in this small group?
- How can we be praying for you this week? Close in prayer together.