

Aug. 30/Sep. 1, 2019

The Transforming Power of Community

Review

Main Points

1. A place to be broken.
2. A place to be loved.
3. A place to be restored.

Reflect

1. **Intro // Best and Worst.** Open by asking what the best and worst church memories are of individuals or your group. And explore how spot-on Pastor Todd was in claiming that a person is almost always a part of these memories? Remind your group that each of them can be part of others best and worst encounters with Jesus.
2. **A Place to Be Broken.** *Read 1 John 1:8.* Pastor Todd called out that Jesus often spent intentional time with those who were considered sinners, then reminded us that in reality we're all sinners in need of a safe place to admit we're hurting.
 - **Read the following quote from Pastor Todd:** "You don't go to the hospital to prove you're healthy, rather you go to admit you're hurting and in need of help. If there is any safe place that you can come and admit that you're broken... it's here [the church]."
 - Ask the group what we can learn from the quote that you just read, and if the people close to them would agree or disagree with this statement about Christians and the church. Lastly, ask your group what needs to change if people would disagree with it.
3. **A Place to Be Loved.** Ask your group how good of a job they do with showing the love of God to those close to them, particularly those people who confide in them because they're broken or hurting. If no situations come to mind, consider challenging those in your group to consider how they can better position to be a place for the broken.
 - **Read the following quote from Pastor Todd:** "We're a church marked by, even defined by, the love that we show to others." How is this true of the way today's culture defines a church or Christians in general?
4. **A Place to Be Restored.** If we were nothing more than a place to share

in brokenness and loving one another, we wouldn't properly represent the God of the Bible because he wants us to be more than just loved; he wants us to be fully restored. Ask your group if anybody would like to share how the great Physician and Healer, Jesus Christ, has worked in their lives. What brokenness have they gone to the Father with, experiencing love and restoration in response?

Respond

Too many times we call out someone else's sin in a way that may seem offensive, or in a way that is the complete opposite of loving and restorative. Pastor Todd closed with practical advice in how we're supposed to respond when we have the opportunity to be the gospel in action to somebody who's hurting or broken.

Ask your group their thoughts on the following three points:

1. Jesus heals (Isa. 53:5), but we have a role in pointing people to Jesus.
2. We should have "a spirit of gentleness" (Gal. 6:1) as we help our brothers and sisters work through their sin or brokenness.
3. We should have a sense of humility, keeping watch ourselves so that we are not tempted ourselves. (Gal. 6:1)

Pray

Ask the group for prayer requests.

Announcements

All Community Group Kick Off – Sunday, September 8

We are going to kick-off Hebrews Together, Together. The 2nd Annual All-Group Kick-Off on Sunday Night September 8 from 5:30-7:30pm. There will be All-Group time with worship and encouragement from Hebrews. Then there will be Individual Group time with your community group to eat and discuss week 1.

An important detail – you will register your group. You can do it online ccchapel.com/Hebrews. There is a childcare form for people to fill out individually.