September 25. 2011

Real Community

Accept it-God is on your side

Hebrews 6:13-18

NEXT STEPS

Use these study questions to turn a message into a conversation.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. We all have different personality types and temperaments that impact how we interact and relate to others (outgoing, quiet, thinking out loud, internally processing, optimistic, high energy, mellow, free flowing, systematic, intuitive, skeptic, reflective, analytical, to name a few). What terms would you use to describe your personality?

How might the way you are wired help you relate to God?

Follow Jesus' example--accept each other.

Romans 15:2-13

Can you think of any ways it makes it more difficult?

Without accountability you are vulnerable question

2. Take a moment and think through some of the standard spiritual tools that help keep us connected to God (solitude, Bible reading, journaling, memorization, anonymous acts of service, prayer, sharing our faith, and the like), and then answer the questions below.

Which of these, if any, have been presented to you more as rules than tools?

Which, if any, have worked particularly well for you?

Which, if any, have you tried and found to be of little or no value for you spiritually?

Digging Deeper

1. Here are some passages that speak of God caring and wanting to relate to each of us personally. Look up each one and jot down the main point or insight it contains.

 John 15:13-15
 James 2:26

 Matthew 11:28-30
 Proverbs 28:13

2. Jesus had some interesting thoughts about what it means for us as adults to interact with and relate to God. What does Jesus teach us in these passages about knowing and pleasing God?

Matthew 11:25-27

Psalm 34:15, 18, 22

Matthew 18:1-5

In your thinking, what is the difference between a child-like faith and a childish faith? 3. Healthy long-term relationships don't happen by accident – they take ongoing intentional action. They also have seasons of strong connection as well as times when the intensity is not so great. How might the actions listed in the verses below help keep us connected to God no matter what season we're in?

Mark 1:35

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Hebrews 10:25