



STUDY GUIDE

Poll-arized **09.20.2020**

[setting it up]

What are you celebrating right now?

Share an experience of a time when you helped someone in need.

[digging deeper]

Read Isaiah 58:1-12.

What stood out to you from this passage?
What questions does this passage raise for you?
What does this passage teach us about God?
What does this passage teach us about ourselves?

Ask a group member to read Jesus' words in Matthew 25:31-46. Make a list of the 6 kinds of people we are called to serve.

Read James 2:15-16 and ask, "What stands out to you from this passage?"

Read 1 John 3:17-18 and ask, "What stands out to you from this passage?"

[living it out]

Ask members of the group to read the following quote from an early church leader:

"It is absurd and disgraceful for one to live magnificently and luxuriously when so many are hungry...If one who takes the clothing off another is a thief, why give any other name to one who can clothe the naked and refuses to do so? The bread in your cupboard belongs to the hungry man; the coat hanging in your closet belongs to the man who needs it; the shoes rotting in your closet belong to the man who has no shoes; the money which you put into the bank belongs to the poor. You do wrong to everyone you could help but fail to help."
-Basil of Caesarea, 330-370

Out loud, name one person you know who is in need—hungry, thirsty, a refugee, in need of clothing, sick, in prison, an orphan, or a widow.

What is a next step you will take in order to grow as a result of what you've learned?
(Remember the principle: Do for some what you wish you could do for all.)

In order to help you take that next step, create an “I will” statement and share it with your LifeGroup.

Close in prayer for your “Who’s Your One?” friend and for that one person you named who is in need.

Why do we not pursue Christian unity more but instead find ourselves divided, especially over unbiblical or extra-biblical issues?

Jesus wants us to be one, but why? For what purpose? (See verses 11, 20-23 again.)

How can that help motivate us to pray and pursue unity?