

# THE ONE

Week 1 Member Guide

## SERMON RECAP: WHAT DID THE TEXT MEAN? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

The sermon this week described how accessible Jesus was to everyone around Him. People are drawn to Jesus and Jesus loved being with people who were lost to the Father. However, we also learned that Christ-followers can, at time, have a difficult time avoiding isolating the lost. Unfortunately, it's easy to get caught up in self-righteousness when the lost doesn't act like, talk like, smell like, or look like our own preconceived idea of a Christ-follower. Instead, Christ-followers must overcome their tendency towards isolation and engage the lost.

## WARM UP

Take a look at your relational circles. On a scale of 1-10, where do you have the most influence?

Relational Circle:

My family \_\_\_\_\_  
My Circle \_\_\_\_\_  
My recreational groups \_\_\_\_\_  
Among people I don't know \_\_\_\_\_  
My church community \_\_\_\_\_  
My co-workers \_\_\_\_\_  
My neighborhood \_\_\_\_\_

## THE TEXT: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME?

- Knowing what you know about Jesus and his view on people like Joe, how should we address our feelings of difficulty to spend time and invest in the lost?
- What struggles do you face when trying to fight against selfishness?
- How would you defend yourself if someone accused you of ignoring The One because you think you're better than they are and like your world the way it is?

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- What emotions do you feel right after watching this video?
  - How often do you think we forget what it took for Jesus to purchase our freedom and offer us forgiveness?

Let's take the next 2 minutes and go around the circle: Think back to when you were lost and didn't know Jesus.

- If Jesus avoided you because you didn't look like, act like, smell like, talk like, or live like He did, where would you be today?

#### READ:

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

- Did you notice the past tense used in v. 11b some of you "were?"
- If we follow Paul's thinking, what is Paul trying to communicate?
- How often do you view yourself as a beggar pleading with someone to accept Jesus?
- Does viewing yourself as a beggar help or hinder your understanding of reaching The One?
- Think about the answer to this question: What is keeping me from going after "Joe" in these circles?
- What am I willing to rearrange in order to invest in "Joe?"

## DIGGING DEEPER

As a Russian priest (1829 – 1908), Father John (Sergiev) Kronstadt first thought he wanted to be a monk in the remote areas of Siberia – but after a vision, he realized God wanted him to be a missionary right where he was – in the hustle and bustle of the big urban city of St. Petersburg. While most priests remained in the safe confines of their cathedrals, Father John would go out into the noisy, dirty, crime-ridden slums and back alleys of the city. He would find someone down and out in the gutter, sleeping off the effects of the previous night's drink and activities. Father John would cup his chin; look him in the eyes and say, ***"This is beneath your dignity. You were created to house the fullness of God."*** Wherever he went, people found new hope and optimism because they discovered, or were reminded, of who they were.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.48days.com/are-you-living-beneath-your-dignity>