

Rooted and Reaching Week #4

Leader's Notes

Week of October 1, 2017

NOTES TO LEADERS: I am aware that some of these questions about sharing your story are similar to the previous week. If it is too redundant or you have already pursued the stories, perhaps you could focus more on the application questions or talk about the challenge to “apply it this week.”

NOTES TO LEADERS: You probably noticed that the “Apply it this week” section from the previous notes was a challenge to share this week. That will be up to you if you desire to follow through with this.

Share it

When was a time in your life when you were overflowing with thankfulness? (relationship? Children? Career?) How did it overflow? How did others react?

Study the Bible

The following passages are stories of people who turned to Jesus. What drew them to Jesus? Why did they follow Him?

Mark 2:13-14 – **Levi received a personal invitation after hearing about him previously.**

Mark 7:24-30 – **A Greek woman who has a need for her daughter.**

Mark 10:46-52 – **A blind man who knew something about Jesus and was being ignored**

John 3:1-15 – **Nicodemus was curious about Jesus' teachings**

John 6:66-69 – **While others were falling away, the 12 recognized that Jesus had “the words of eternal life.”**

Acts 2:29-41 – **These listeners knew that prophecies were fulfilled and listened to the witnesses to Jesus' resurrection.**

Acts 4:32-37 – **Many, including Barnabas, saw how believers were caring for one another.**

Discuss Together

Read Colossians 2:6-7 together. What does it mean to “receive Christ Jesus as Lord?”

NOTES TO LEADERS: It is important to answer this question. Some may not know what this means. You can cross reference to John 1:12 as well as Romans 10:9-12

If you are in the process of considering Jesus, what about him appeals to you? If you have already chosen to follow Him, what appealed to you? What motivated you to keep moving forward and say “Yes?” How were people involved in the process?

NOTES TO LEADERS: Please don't skip the last question above. While all of it is important and all of God's work, we don't want to skip the fact that God uses people in His process.

What helps you to “continue to live in Him?” How are Christ-followers a part?

NOTES TO LEADERS: This is a wide open question that all believers should be able to address.

Read Ephesians 3:17-19. What is Jesus doing as you live in Him?

NOTES TO LEADERS: Notice below:

So that Christ may dwell [**Jesus does this**] in your hearts through faith [**Faith is our part**]. And I pray that you, being rooted established in love [**Jesus does this**], 18 may have power [**Jesus**], together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ [**Jesus does this as we have faith**], 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge-- that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God [**Jesus does this**]. **Ephesians 3:17-19**

Considering our verses, how might this all “overflow” into our worlds?

NOTES TO LEADERS: Living a life knowing what God has done for you and the mercies that He has shown you (from previous week), and life of overflowing thanksgiving, this will spill over into our lives. How? People recognize a thankful attitude, you will want to share these good things with others, and you will want to act like Jesus who was serving the people in His world.

May His grace and wisdom fill you,

Steve