

Small Group Guide



Small Group Guide: God's Compassionate Nature

Opening Ice-Breaker: Share a time when you experienced or witnessed unexpected compassion from someone. How did it make you feel?

Key Takeaways:

1. God's first self-description is "compassionate" (Exodus 34:6)
2. The Hebrew word for compassion is rooted in the word for "womb," emphasizing a deep, maternal-like love
3. God's compassion is consistent throughout Scripture and demonstrated through Jesus
4. God is responsive and moved by our cries, not distant or stoic

Discussion Questions:

1. The sermon starts with Jeff sharing a story about judging someone singing at a conference. How does this relate to our tendency to make assumptions about God?
2. Why do you think God chose "compassionate" as the first word to describe Himself? How does this challenge or affirm your view of God?
3. The sermon mentions several Biblical examples of God's compassion (David, Jonah, Prodigal Son). Which one resonates with you the most and why?
4. How does understanding God's compassionate nature impact your approach to prayer and your relationship with Him?
5. Pastor Jeff states, "Truths about God aren't meant to be bullet points." What do you think he means by this? How can we better meditate on God's character?
6. How might our view of God's compassion affect how we treat others, especially those who are hurting or have made mistakes?
7. The sermon challenges the idea that God is unmoved and that "whatever will happen, will happen." How does this perspective change your understanding of God's involvement in your life?