

Small Group Discussion Guide

THE WORD // How Is the Word Heartbroken?

Introduction

What is your view of sarcasm? Is there ever a place for sarcasm in conversations?

Questions

Read Luke 13:31-35.

1. Looking at the opening verse and the Pharisees' comment to Jesus, do you think there was real concern in their statement? Why or why not?
2. It's very possible that the Pharisees were not really concerned about Jesus and his safety concerning Herod. From what you know of Jesus and the Pharisees, what are some possible reasons why they did not want Jesus around?
3. What is so dangerous about not wanting Jesus around?
4. What would keep you from Jesus? What would cause you to tell Jesus, "Leave!"
5. Why do we push God away? Why would we push Jesus away?
6. How do you see others pushing Jesus away?
7. How do we push Jesus away?
8. Why do you think Jesus would call Herod a "fox?"
9. What is Jesus implying in verse 33?
10. How does Jesus' goal of dying reflect both our need and his great longing?
11. When you double the name of a person or people, it implies an emphatic, personal, and even an intimate connection. How might we express such an emphatic and intimate connection today? Who, in your life, would you name as having that type of relationship with you? What makes that relationship so special?
12. How might you describe Jesus' plea in verse 34?
13. What event is Jesus referring to at the end of verse 35 (hint: the Sunday before Good Friday)?
14. A mother hen is super aware of her chicks' needs and very determined to protect them, even at her own expense. What insight does that give you on Jesus?
15. Which passage in tonight's lesson most communicates the gospel to you? And why?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we know that by your Holy Spirit the best place for us to be is inside of your loving protection. Yet we struggle to know what that means in practical ways. Help us to see our issues and challenges as part of the catalyst to draw us closer to you. Bless us as we learn more about your personal concern for us and lead us in the way everlasting. In Jesus' name, amen.