

THREE THINGS I LEARNED FROM A MOVIE *I DIDN'T WANT TO SEE*

PART 2: THE POWER OF KINDNESS

INTRODUCTION

How we see people determines how we treat people. If our views align with God's, we will know how to love others better, regardless of their behavior or circumstances. But seeing isn't the only thing that makes a difference...

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Who knows you really well? What three words would they use to describe you?
2. Below are some insights into how God sees us. (*Each person needs a way to jot down their scores on paper or digitally.*)

Take a minute to individually rate yourselves using the 1-4 scoring system below, and then continue to Question 3 to discuss your answers.

- 1 = I do not believe this.
- 2 = I struggle to believe this.
- 3 = I believe this in my head.
- 4 = I believe this in my head and experience this in my life.

“How God Sees Me” Exercise

- ___ I am forgiven. (Ephesians 1:7)
- ___ I am a new creation. (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- ___ I am God's workmanship, not finished yet. (Ephesians 2:10)
- ___ I am dearly loved. (Colossians 3:12)
- ___ I am no longer condemned. I am free from condemnation. (Romans 8:1)

3. Did you have any 1s or 2s? Why is it difficult for you to believe this is how God sees you?
4. Since God sees you as the things above (*forgiven, a new creation, not finished yet, dearly loved, no longer condemned*), how can you begin to see others the way God sees you?
5. Who in your life is it hard to be kind to? What battle do you think they are fighting?
6. How does understanding their battle and the way God sees you change how you see them? How might this affect how you love them?

MOVING FORWARD

It's easy to throw stones at something we don't understand, especially when it involves someone who is hard to love. However, when we understand the battles others face, we are better equipped to show them the same love and kindness our heavenly Father shows us. Don't forget that everyone is fighting a hard battle.

WEEKLY READING

Read Luke 7:41-50 and meditate on how you can respond more kindly to people when you see the battles they are facing. Remember how Jesus does that for us.