

Date: Nov 6, 2011

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Talk Title: "Christianity is a Straight Jacket"

Leader Note:

These questions are only the launch questions for discussion. I encourage you to print them off and have them with you on Sunday morning so that you can make it your own. Spend time praying that God would direct you to further questions that relate to your group. I don't know your group but you do. Take them into a journey of discussion and discovery.
Ron

1. **Sunday Summary:**

The church, generally speaking is dealing with an *"image problem"*. It's common to think that Christianity is a straight jacket for life. This past Sunday we dealt with a few big butts when it comes to understanding what the Christian Faith is about. As you gather in your group our hope is that you will be able to talk these image problems out and find ways to help others see that the Christian message is about freedom and life.

2. **Connecting Questions:** (Interactive, life sharing, thought and feeling)

- If you could be on a reality TV show what would it be and why? (I (Ron) could totally win wipeout – just sayin)
- What part of the service impacted you the most and why? What challenged, stretched or surprised you? What has gotten you thinking about your life, your faith and your relationship with God and others as a result of your experience at last Sunday's service?

3. **Truth Questions:** (Discovering what God says from the Bible)

- What is your thought or experience around the idea that the 2011 Church/Christianity has an image problem? Do you even agree with a statement like that?
- What are some of the image problems that you have heard, seen and even experienced? & Why do you think they have become such a problem?
- How does your perception of the Christian Faith line up or compare with what Jesus said in (*Matthew 11:28-30*)?
- Discuss ways that people can be part of the **"Image Correction Campaign"** as it relates to the Christian faith. Have someone read (*2 Corinthians 5:19-20a*) and explore what it means to be an ambassador for God. **Leader:** We need to have people understand how this works in the everyday situation.
- Please be deliberate in ending your time in prayer. Spend some time as a group praying that God would give your group the courage to be the difference this week.

4. **Taking it Further:** (Extra's to explore with your group)

- Might assist in the **"Image Correction Campaign"**
 - (*1 Peter 3:13-17*) deals with being ready to explain your faith
 - (*Matthew 5:16*) talks about good deeds shining bright
 - (*Colossians 3:17*) explores that whatever we do in word or deed represents God

