

LESS
OF

me

MG³ #mc3lessofme



Discussion
Gu'de

"SpeechLess"

05/21/17

The Point:

LESS OF *me* MEANS MORE *Speaking the Truth*

The Repeats (required)

Yes, they are the same, but *WE* change, so please discuss these with your group

- [Share the announcements (on FB thread) with your group]
- God is ALWAYS working! Sometimes we just need to keep our “antennae up”, to be looking for it. Go around your group and share your God Moments of how you have seen God working, either in your life or in the life of another, over the past few weeks.
- Is there anything that you want to share that has stood out to you so far from the current Point series?

The Review (optional)

Use this section only if you want to review for those who were not in the Point

- Have someone explain the Point in their own words.*
- What object lesson or illustration was used to communicate the Point this week? How did this apply to the Point?*
- Have someone read or summarize the main Bible passage/story from the Point (see “The References” section).
- How did this Bible passage teach the Point?*

**someone who was in the Point may need to explain this*

The Reenergizer (optional)

Use this question if you need to get your group talking

- Have you ever done something crazy when sledding, skiing, or at the pool or beach (or similar recreational activity)? Tell us your story.

The Reflection (required)

Discuss these to go deeper, *and more personal*, into applying the Point

- Read Matthew 3:7. Why was it such a big deal that John said this? Though it may not sound like it, how did this demonstrate his humility?
- Read Matthew 3:8-12. What was the issue with the Pharisees and Sadducees—what were they doing wrong? (see v. 8) Have you ever found yourself like that: *saying* the “right” things but not *living* it?
- In this passage, John demonstrated the importance of putting our insecurities, pride, and comfort behind, in order to speak truth to one another by saying the hard things. *Why* is “confrontation” so important? Why do you think *it is hard* for people to do this (appropriately)?
- As Christ-followers, the Bible gives us some descriptions of *how* to say the hard things. As you read each of the following, come up with examples that are opposite of what each passage describes:
 - *Be Biblical*: 2 Timothy 3:14-17
 - *Be Gentle*: Galatians 6:1; Ephesians 4:15
 - *Be Specific*: Matthew 18:15
 - *Be Encouraging*: 1 Thessalonians 5:14
 - *Be Immediate*: Hebrews 3:13
 - *and Point to Jesus!*: 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
- We ALL have areas that we need to adjust in our lives, so that we’re not just *saying*, but *living* like Jesus (Matt 3:8). Don’t be overwhelmed, but share just one “opposite” just discussed, that sounds the most like you. What one practical thing can you do to begin to change this?

The References

Main Passage: **Matthew 3:7-12 (NLT)** *selected verses, read full passage in Bible

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming to watch him baptize, he denounced them...

2 Timothy 3:14-17 (NIV) *selected verses, read full passage in Bible

...All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness...

Galatians 6:1 (NLT) *selected verses, read full passage in Bible

...gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path...

Ephesians 4:15 (NLT)

Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.

Matthew 18:15 (NLT)

"If another believer sins against you, go privately and point out the offense. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back."

1 Thessalonians 5:14 (NET)

And we urge you, brothers and sisters, admonish the undisciplined, comfort the discouraged, help the weak, be patient toward all.

Hebrews 3:13 (NLT)

You must warn each other every day, while it is still "today," so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God.

Galatians 6:1 (NLT) *selected verses, read full passage in Bible

...And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.