

Fire Pit Topic July 2016: Value and Worth vs. Prejudice

Definition: The idea of how we view and treat individuals. Do we have a basis for treating all people with value and worth based on the fact that they are made in the image of God? To be prejudice is to look down upon or devalue an individual because of their race, culture, life style, economic status, or other factors.

How to apply at the chapter meeting: Use these Questions:

1. Where are some of the areas you still struggle with prejudice?
2. What are some of the excuses we use to justify and continue our prejudice?
3. Since the bible says all men are created in the "image of God", could our prejudice be an insult to the character of God?

Fire Pit Discussion: Focus group

1. Talk about the definition and the topic.
2. Historical events that illustrate the topic: In the late 1700's, at the height of the slave trade, William Wilberforce began the fight to abolish the slave trade in England. He lead this fight based on what he believed scripture taught and God desired. He fought for the abolition of slavery in the English parliament for almost 50 years. The act to abolish slavery was passed in England in 1833. Wilberforce died 3 days later.
3. References in the Bible
 - a. Genesis 1: 27
 - b. John 4: 3- 29: Jesus crosses racial and gender barriers when talking to the Samaritan women.
 - c. Ephesians 2: 10- 22: Paul confronted the racial barriers between Jews and non-Jews.
4. Illustrated in the life of Jesus
 - a. John 4: 3- 29: Look again at this story of how Jesus treated this woman. He spoke the truth to her in love, while treating her with great value and worth.
5. Application: What about us? Do we still talk down to people who are made in God's image? Do we still justify the use of racist language, jokes, etc.? When will we stop this behavior and become men who reflect the character of God in who we treat others?