



Week 2: Acceptancitis

INTRODUCTION

A post on social media has the power to shift us from resting in the acceptance of God to searching for acceptance in the virtual world. Jason encouraged and challenged us to look to God for our acceptance rather than people. How we understand acceptance has the power to shape our view of God and people. Take time as a group to discuss Sunday's message and find, or reaffirm, your acceptance in God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What part of Sunday's message stood out to you? Was there anything you disagreed with or that encouraged you?

"Acceptance from God is found, when I admit my need for Jesus."

- What are things we compare with others via social media? Why do you think we post the good things and not the bad things?
- What are the things that cause us to doubt and forget the value God places on us?

Read: Luke 23:29, 40-43; Colossians 1:21-22

Context: *When Jesus was crucified, he hung between two men who had committed crimes and were convicted. Luke records the conversation they had with Jesus as they hung there.*

- What was the distinction that the thief made between their sentences and Jesus'? How is this significant? How does this relate to your salvation?
- What was the thief's request? How is Jesus' response one of hope and salvation?
- What is necessary for this thief to do and believe in order for him to have the hope of salvation?
- Jason said, "Acceptance from God is **found**, when I **admit** my need for **Jesus**." Share about the time you admitted your need for Jesus and how it changed your life.
- According to Paul in Colossians, what was our position apart from God? What is our position in Christ? How does that impact my life and the way I live today?
- If God has promised and gone to such lengths to accept us in Christ, why do we need to find acceptance in anyone or anything else?
- How can you as a Christian rest in the reality of your acceptance by God?

MOVING FORWARD

We have a God who loved us so much that He sent His Son to die for our sins and rise from the dead so that we could be accepted into His family as sons and daughters of God. It is the value God placed on you and I that should be what defines us, not the chasing after the wind of virtual acceptance. Rest in God's acceptance. It will change your life and give you opportunity to be a part of changing other's lives.

LIVE IT OUT

Memorize: Learn Colossians 1:21-22

Journaling: Make a list of the things you look for acceptance in and then a list next to it of who you are in Christ. Then, cross out the things that you tend to look for acceptance in and thank God out loud for the truths on the second list.

Prayer: Thank God for the blessings of reconciliation that God has blessed you with in Colossians 1:22.

Accountability: If you struggle with Acceptancitis, ask someone in your group to keep you accountable by calling you out on that and reminding you of who you are in Christ.