

THE ONE JESUS LOVED

Sermon Discussion Guide

Part 3 - *The Three* - Pastor Rob Ketterling

Let's Recap:

This weekend, Pastor Rob returned to our series, *The One Jesus Loves*. He reviewed the previous circles and introduced the uniqueness of being part of *The Three*. Together we looked closely at three events and how those unique experiences transformed and challenged *The Three* bringing them to yet another, deeper level of intimacy with Christ. While Christ's humanity prevented him from that intimacy with every person alive at that time; now, those limitations are removed and we all have that closeness available if we really desire to move into that circle.

Tune In:

Icebreaker: Have you ever had a choice that had both rewards and known challenges associated with it, perhaps a work promotion, parenting, a travel experience, an opportunity to gain a skill or further your education, etc? Share how you made the decision. Did you make the right choice? Did you have regrets?

To prepare for our time, please read: Mark 5:35-43; Mark 9:2-13; Mark 14:32-42.

Go Deep:

- Have you ever been part of a special and unique smaller group that enjoyed some very special privileges and/or deeper relationship? Share some detail with the group.
- As we reviewed the previous weeks, Pastor Rob explained that: 1. *The crowds battled unbelief*. 2. *The 5000 battled selfishness*. 3. *The 70 battled the works trap*. 4. *The 12 battled self-will*. 5. *The 3 battled genuinely desiring a deeper faith*. After this weekend, knowing that we often move back and forth in our growth, which battle are you facing right now? Share some details of how that looks in your life and what you are doing to emerge victorious?
- Pastor Rob shared that some people have commented that River Valley Church could grow larger in attendance if we would simply make our worship more comfortable for people - reduce the intimacy we enjoy in Christ's presence.....Is there something that you may be compromising in which is preventing you from getting closer to Jesus? Another way of phrasing this might be, "Is there something that's holding you back from Christ? Share a little of that struggle with the group and commit to pray for each other in this specific area this week.

Live Out:

Intimacy is not about head knowledge. Make a plan to make one small change that has the potential to move you closer to Christ and put it into practice this week - a new place for prayer, more time with Jesus daily, journaling, arriving early for services and weekend worship, joining a Lifeteam, etc.



