

Is Our Gospel Too Small

Icebreaker: Has there ever been a time in your life when someone exceeded your expectations? Share about the circumstances.

The Big Idea: When we read the Bible we need to read the “whole” Bible not just the parts that reinforce our perspectives. We also need to be sensitive to the “whole” message God is sharing with us.

Digging Deeper:

1. In what ways is it easy for the church in America to have the same misconceptions of God as did the Masai people—that God only loves the well-off, healthy and successful?
- ✓ Read Luke 4:16-22
2. How does the Gospel address an often-used statement that God helps those who help themselves?
 3. How can our ministry liberate excluded people rather than simply adding another dimension of their oppression?
 4. How can we live out the truth that the Gospel is to be both futuristic and present—it is not merely intended to teach a way to leave the world but rather to transform it?
 5. Discuss how our Gospel is to include; 1) proclamation, 2) compassion and 3) Justice.
 6. Why is the statement “God is love” such a simple yet profound truth? Why is it that every teaching from the Bible and every activity of our ministry should be taught through the primary lens of God’s love and bear witness to this truth?