



# THE GREAT OPPORTUNITY

## SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

The Great Opportunity: **For Those Who Need to Come Home**

1 Peter 2:9-10; Romans 15:1, 5-7

March 6/7, 2021

### Part 1: Pray

The primary goal for our small group meetings is to *experience Jesus in our midst in his presence and power*. We want him to be at work by His Spirit ministering to us and through us to one another so that people are cared for and encouraged to lead God-pleasing lives. Ask God to reveal his truth in this passage to transform you through your discussion time.

### Part 2: Read the Text

Read the passages from the sermon. Keep a focus on key words, repeated phrases or major themes.

### Part 3: Reflect on the Sermon

#### *Introduction*

1. Ray told the story of being welcomed by a friend's mother, "Mi Casa es su casa." Do you have a similar story? When have you felt welcomed?
2. Why does everyone need to be welcomed? What is it that makes us all want to go "where everybody knows your name and they're always glad you came"?

### *The Welcoming: Family*

1. Where did Ray say that the culture of community comes from?  
(Hint: It starts with a “t” and rhymes with eternity.)  
How is Christianity unique in this doctrine of God? Why is it significant?
2. Why did Ray say that the welcoming family doesn’t have time to quarrel? What are some of the “more important things” we have to do?
3. Have everyone in the group choose one of the “one another” passages below and give an example of how it can be practiced.

Romans 12:10, 16

Ephesians 4:32

Hebrews 3:13

Romans 14:19

Ephesians 5:19

Hebrews 10:24

Romans 15:5, 7, 14

1 Peter 5:5

1 Peter 4:9-10

1 Corinthians 12:25

Philippians 2:3-4

1 Peter 5:5

Galatians 5:13

Colossians 3:13, 16

James 5:16

Ephesians 4:2, 15, 25

1 Thessalonians 4:18

John 13:34

### *The Welcoming: Father*

1. Ray said that Jesus is the Welcomer. Read Matthew 11:28-30. Have you taken up Jesus’s invitation? If not, what is hindering you? If you have, what difference has it made?
2. Read Luke 14:12-13. Who is it that we are to welcome? Why do we so often only invite the group found in verse 12? What does that say about us?
3. Ray summarized his message, “You are welcomed, so you welcome.”  
How can we become better welcomers?

#### **Part 4: Summarize the Message**

How would you summarize the sermon to someone who has never heard it? What are your two or three key takeaways from the message and your discussion?

How does this sermon change your perspective on God? Your own heart? And/or, how to follow Jesus?