

Centered Set Church

08 Jesus Centered

INTRODUCTION

A church that is Centered Set must define its center. Who is Jesus, and what were his values? Is there any evidence that Jesus was Centered Set?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. If you visit a church today, what are some lines you feel you need to cross to feel that you belong in that community? Are these lines explicitly established or assumed?
2. Kats said that the goal of the Pharisees was the same as Jesus'. The Pharisees believed they could achieve their goal by drawing lines and separating themselves from sinners. Have you shared this assumption? What are your thoughts on this matter?
3. What does the parable and Luke 15 as a whole reveal to us about Jesus' response to bounded group religiosity? How is your concept of God similar and different from the God revealed by the parable and by Jesus' actions in Luke 15?
4. If you sense a line drawn in your church, what steps should you take to implement a centered-set culture? Will it require others? Does it take resources (if so, what will you need)? Share your process with your group.
5. Does this series change the way you approach evangelism? Explain your answer.

MOVING FORWARD

When Jesus was confronted with questions about lines, he always responded with relational and directional terms. This means Jesus does not draw lines, which means the church

CHANGING YOUR MIND

After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. "Follow me," Jesus said to him, and Levi got up, left everything and followed him.

Luke 5:27-28