



BROTHERLY LOVE

Family Devotional/Adult & Teen Discussion Guide

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SEPTEMBER 9, 2018

1. PRIMARY STATEMENT: Everyone has a call to “ministry,” but it’s a lot less mysterious than it seems. Being a light to your world can be as simple as being a good friend.

2. BIBLE VERSE:

Matthew 11:19 [GW]

“The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and people say, ‘Look at him! He’s a glutton and a drunk, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ ‘Yet, wisdom is proved right by its actions.’”

Jesus didn’t do ministry the way people expected a teacher of the law to. Sure, He taught in the synagogues, but He also taught around dining tables. Spending time with people and building friendships was an integral part of Jesus’ ministry - and it should be part of ours.

Q . Do you think people criticized Jesus more for the types of people He ate with, or for the fact that He did “ministry” in a non-traditional way? Would those types of criticisms be different or mostly the same in today’s church culture?

Q . How would ministering to people by befriending them look in your life? Give a few examples.

3. DISCUSSION:

Romans 12:9-10 [NLT]

“Don’t just pretend to love others. Really love them... Love each other with genuine affection (brotherly love), and take delight in honoring each other.”



Ministering by being a friend is not just about time spent - it’s about real, genuine love for someone, being loyal and dependable the way brothers or sisters would be. That kind of friendship gives you access to speak into someone’s life.

Q . Who’s a person in your life who needs a relationship with God? On a scale of 1 to 10, how deep would you say your relationship is with this person?

Q . How would your ability to point this person toward God change if that relationship grew by a point or two?

Q . What’s one thing you could do this week to show genuine, selfless love toward that person?



4. PRAYER FOCUS

Take a few minutes as a family: thank God for the friendships that are already in your life. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you deepen relationships with people who need to know Him.



ARE YOU THIRSTY?

Family Devotional/Overflow Kids Discussion Guide

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1. POWER VERSE: **John 4:14** *“But those who drink the water I give will never be thirsty again. It becomes a fresh, bubbling spring within them, giving them eternal life.”*

What’s Up: “Take A Drink From Jesus, And You’ll Never Thirst Again!”

In this lesson, we learn that when we have a need, we should admit it to God. From the Bible Story, we learn that when God gives instructions on what to do about our needs, we should listen to what He says, even if it doesn’t make sense. Then, when we’ve admitted our needs and obeyed God’s instructions, we can expect to receive God’s blessings!

2. READ:

2 Kings 3:1-24 *Joram became king of Israel in Samaria. Joram did what was evil in the sight of the Lord. He kept on committing the sins ...also caused Israel to commit those same sins. He sent a message to Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah. Joram said, “The king of Moab is refusing to obey me. Will you go with me to fight against Moab?” “Yes. I’ll go with you,” Jehoshaphat replied. After seven days they ran out of water. There wasn’t any water for the men or their animals. “What should we do now?” exclaimed the king of Israel. “The Lord has called us three kings together. Did he do it only to hand us over to Moab?” But Jehoshaphat asked, “Isn’t there a prophet of the Lord here? Can’t we ask the Lord for advice through him?” So the king of Israel went down to see Elisha. Jehoshaphat and the king of Edom also went there. “The Lord called us three kings together. He did it to hand us over to Moab.” Elisha said, “I serve the Lord who rules over all. You can be sure that he lives. But now bring me someone who plays the harp.” While that person was playing the harp, the Lord’s power came on Elisha. Elisha announced, “The Lord says, ‘I will fill this valley with pools of water.’ This will happen because the Lord says, ‘This valley will be filled with water. Then you will have water to drink.’ This is an easy thing for the Lord to do. He will also hand Moab over to you.” The next day, the time came to offer the morning sacrifice. And then it*

happened! In fact, the land was filled with water! Now all the people of Moab had heard that the kings had come to fight against them. They got up early in the morning. The sun was already shining on the water. Across the way, the water looked red to the men of Moab. It looked like blood. “That’s blood!” they said. “Those kings must have fought and killed each other. Let’s go, Moab! Let’s take everything that has any value.” So the men of Moab went to the camp of Israel. Just as they arrived there, the men of Israel got ready to fight. They fought against the men of Moab until those men ran away. The men of Israel marched into the land.

3. DISCUSSION:



Q. What did the three armies realize after seven days of traveling in the desert? What did they need?

Q. Who did they go to for help?

Q. What did he say God would do? Did God come through? If so, how?

The world is full of people who have great needs. Even we, as Christians, have significant needs. Sometimes we need healing. Sometimes we need miracles in our families. Sometimes we need friends at school. We all have needs to be met and the solution for all of those needs comes from God!



4. PRAYER FOCUS

Do you have any needs in your life right now? What should we do about the needs we have in our lives? Pray for your children’s needs. Pray that they will admit their needs to God, do what He says, even if it doesn’t make sense, and begin to receive God’s blessings!