

# THE DIFFICULT PEOPLE

Lifegroups | Week 8 | FALL 2018

## ICEBREAKER

Since it was Thanksgiving last week, go around the group and ask everyone what were you most thankful for?

## OPEN IN PRAYER AND PLAY VIDEO

## MESSAGE SUMMARY

We allow many people in our lives but sometimes it's the ones closest to us that hurt us the most. But in our deepest pain and frustration confess to God his word over your life. Don't keep repeating the situation you're going through but say what God has said over your life. You are greater! You are more than a conqueror! You are the head and not the tail! YOU ARE HIS!

**SCRIPTURE** *(do not read until prompted in the discussion questions)*

Psalm 55:4-14

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Read Psalm 55:4-14. King David was crying out to God about his son, Absalom. The closer the relationship, the deeper the offense. It is impossible to not be offended at least once in our lives. The ones closest to us offend us the most because they know our hurts and weaknesses. Even though we go through offense we cannot allow past pains and hurts make us who we are. If someone was mean to me I can't let that make me mean. If someone was bitter with me I cannot let that make me bitter. But if we have the word of God in us than our heart will be filled with love and grace and we can get through offense easier. ***Can you deal with offense with grace and love? What does that look like?*** *(ex. I won't gossip about them or talk bad about them)*

- Confession and prayer are different. Prayer is the opportunity where God allows you to tell him how you feel and confession has nothing to do with feelings. It is easy to keep repeating how hurt, angry, bitter and frustrated you are but God wants you to start confessing the word of God over your life. God is big enough to handle your feelings, but he doesn't want you to live in your feelings, he wants you to live in his freedom. ***Without talking about your situation what do you need to start confessing?*** (ex. *I have more than enough in my bank account because God has given me access to what I need!*)

- Short-term relationships are seasonal. These are people in our lives that will not go with us to the promise land. These are people that will come and go but we cannot be hurt or angry that they are not in our lives anymore. Some people are in our lives for a short time and that's ok. ***Have you ever had short-term relationships that you mourned when they ended? Have you ever identified them as short-term relationships, if not do that now.*** (ex. *A relationship that didn't work out*)

- Long-term relationships are people that will move with you. This group of people will be small in number but they are people who understand you. These relationships are people who understand that you have weaknesses but they are mature enough to change with you. ***Who are the people in your life that you have long-term relationships with? Have you told them how important they are to your future?***

## CONCLUSION

If people want to leave your life, let them go. Don't beg people to love you. Cherish the relationships you have short-term or long-term because whether they stay or go, they will take you where you need to go.

## OUR CHALLENGE

This week, identify your short-term and long-term relationships and check if these people are in the right category. If you find that some are not in the right category, without apology put them in the right place.