

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Brandon Barber | A House That Heals
DNA: Week 3

Main Idea

DNA means the fundamental and distinctive characteristics or qualities of someone or something, especially when regarded as unchangeable.

Our key verse for this DNA series is “And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him (Colossians 3:17).” It’s to see what God is doing in us so that God can work through us.

Matthew 5:13-16 (MSG)

13 “Let me tell you why you are here. You’re here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavors of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You’ve lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage. 14 “Here’s another way to put it: You’re here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We’re going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. 15 If I make you light-bearers, you don’t think I’m going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I’m putting you on a light stand. 16 Now that I’ve put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you’ll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven.

Additional Scriptures: John 15:16

GOD USES EVERYONE

We know that the message of Christ needs to be spread from neighborhoods to nations. The moment Mary, Joanna, and Susanna met Jesus, everything changed. From the streets (broken) to the CEO (well to do), it says that these women were “helping support them out their own means.” What is the more for in you?

Additional Scriptures: Luke 8:1-3

IF WE DO THE LOVING, HE DOES THE HEALING

There is healing in the house of God, His church. God meets people where they are just like Jesus did with Zacchaeus. He came in calling Him Jesus the person, but he left calling him Lord, recognizing his position and power to heal him from inside out. Who is God calling you to love so that they can see and receive His healing?

Additional Scripture: Luke 19:1-10

RECOGNIZE THAT YOU ARE SOMEBODY'S ANSWERED PRAYER

When Jesus first called Peter he Spoke to him first as a fisherman. After he denied him and Jesus was crucified and raised, he spoke to him as a shepherd. For Jesus to use Peter as the rock that He will build his church on, he couldn't have him loving people like he caught fish. He needed him to be loving people like a shepherd who would leave the 99 to find the one.

Are you viewing the world around you as a fisherman or a shepherd? How can you tell?

Additional Scripture: John 15:16

VALUE A HEART FOR DIVERSITY

Our church looks like heaven with incredible diversity. However, we also need to value the diversity of brokenness. God has called us to be a hospital and our outreach is like the ambulance. From the penthouse to the penitentiary, we are going to see some messy stuff. You've never looked into the eyes of someone that God doesn't love.

Look through the eyes of Jesus. How does this affect your outlook for reaching your community for Christ?

Summary

Jesus is not a secret to be kept. Jesus is the message, people are the mission. From neighborhoods to nations, we are to be the salt and light to the world we live in..

Call To Action

Faithfulness and obedience isn't always fun but it is always fruitful. As you strive to win the war for your worship, consider these calls to action.

1. Find a spiritual influencer in your life and have a conversation about what God is doing in you and how you feel He is now wanting to work through you to reach others.
2. Write down three people that you need to be salt and light to. Share your testimony, invite them to your connect group, or start planting a seed to have them attend on Easter Sunday with you.
3. Pastor Brandon started off his message talking about our mission and community projects at Hope City. Take a moment to review our mission's web page and register to serve at one of upcoming community serve projects.

Group Leader Resource

Game: Deserted Island

Description: Ask the group: "You've been exiled to a deserted island for a year. You are told you may take three things you want, apart from the essentials. What would you take and why?" (You can also make one of those items a person.)

Tips: This icebreaker is fun when people think of quirky answers. Encourage your group to think outside the box. This icebreaker should not take longer than 10 minutes, and the answers should be relatively short.