

## Small Group Questions

December 2, 2018

Series: This Is Us

Message: "The Main Thing"



This series will take us through the holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas. It will also track with our effort we have come to know as "Project Share." During this time of the year, we intentionally seek to serve and bless our community, and part of the world, with acts of compassion. We define compassion as: showing God's love in practical ways. The first three weeks of the series will track with a man in the book of Acts named Joseph, but nicknamed Barnabas (Son of Encouragement) because of the way he lived out his faith. His story enables us to understand the heart and motivation behind our efforts to show compassion.

The second part of the series will look at Christmas passages that show the heart of God toward us. Our compassion efforts are a response to what we have received from God already. Each week of the series there will be a specific way we can get involved in showing God's love to someone in our community or a child in need in a distant land.

You may want to think of ways your group can get involved together in one or more of the efforts. Serving together is a great way to build community with each other. Thank you for what you do to invest in the lives of others!

(Questions to get everyone to participate)

1. What did you have to do to be part of the "in" crowd in high school? Did you do it?
2. What is your favorite style of music? Type of book/movie? Way to celebrate Christmas?

(Questions based on the primary text)

Read Acts 15:1-19.

3. What issue brings together this gathering of leaders in the church in Jerusalem?
4. If you were a Gentile (no Bible background) how would you feel about your new faith in light of the regulations given to you? If you were a Jewish follower (Bible background), why would these things be important to you?
5. What is Peter's take on the issue (see :8-9)?
6. How do you understand James' conclusion in :19?
7. What kind of "add-ons" would be modern day versions of the issue discussed in Acts 15?
8. What kind of personal preferences by insiders (those already in the church) could hinder the effort to reach outsiders (those not yet there or following Jesus)?