



Who is Jesus?, Pt. 3: Accessible to Anyone

Jesus was a rabbi, but he was different than the rabbis of his day. During his ministry, Jesus was available to people and was very approachable. The culture of his day avoided people they deemed “unclean” - people who had diseases, despised tax collectors, sinners, and Gentiles in general. Jesus broke down barriers and gave free access to all those who would come to him.

Bottom Line: Jesus is approachable and accessible to everyone.

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever lived in a home where people are “quarantined” when they get sick? Describe how *you react* around people that are sick and how *you are treated* when you are sick. Are they different/same? Discuss.
2. **Read Leviticus 13:45-46.** In ancient times leprosy was one of the most feared diseases - believed to be a curse from God. Based on this short passage, discuss how people during that time were treated if they had leprosy. What are some modern examples of this kind of treatment? What is the world’s reaction to these modern examples?
3. **Read Mark 1:40-42 and Mark 9:22-29.** Discuss the differences in how each person asked for healing. Why is one healed and the other not?
4. Rabbis were not only teachers of how to live pure lives, they were models of pure living. Lepers were never allowed to approach them. Jesus was a rabbi yet a man with leprosy came to him and asked for help and Jesus helped him. By helping the leper (see Mark 1:40-42), what message was Jesus sending to everyone else who would isolate themselves? Do you consider yourself to be approachable, or do you tend to keep to yourself?
5. **Read Psalm 62:8.** Have you ever experienced a time when you were carrying a burden that you found difficult to approach God with? If you’re comfortable sharing with the group, describe this experience.
6. **Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-21.** Jesus wants you to approach him. What is something you can surrender to him right now?
7. What has been the most helpful thought/idea from the message this week? How has that thought/idea helped you?
8. How can the group encourage you this week?

*If time doesn't allow for you to discuss all of these questions, use only the ones you feel would be most helpful for your group.