

**Life Group Topic #21**  
**The People We Have Marginalized**  
May 31, 2009

**WELCOME: (15 minutes)**

We all have blind spots- things we fail to notice where we need the help of others. What might one of yours be?

**WORSHIP: (15 minutes)**

Use whatever means possible to turn the group's attention to the wonder and majesty of our God- including music, prayer, meditation on the Psalms, and other art forms.

**WORD APPLICATION: (45 minutes)**

Briefly read or paraphrase the following sermon summary before moving to the heart of this section: the discussion around the application questions.

Reaching Our City weekends have been our prompters to embracing a different life...a life that is both missional and incarnational.

Living missionally is going out...intentionally moving out of my area of comfort to encounter the people that I live among. Intentionally looking for ways to bring compassion and the good news of Jesus to the people that I regularly encounter. And if we have eyes to see, we will come across people who have been quietly forgotten in the mainstream of society.

Jean Vanier said...*Those who are weak have great difficulty finding their place in our society. The image of the ideal human as powerful and capable disenfranchises the old, the sick, the less-abled. For me, society must, by definition, be inclusive of the needs and gifts of all its members; how can we lay claim to making an open and friendly society where human rights are respected and fostered when, by the values we teach and foster, we systematically exclude segments of our society.*

It wasn't always as it is today...in the Roman Empire, the Early Church used to hide under bridges and catch discarded babies flung over the side. They would take the babies home to love and nurture them. This happened so repeatedly that the Romans said of the Early Church...*they love our own more than we do*. So today, we focus on **THE PEOPLE WE HAVE MARGINALIZED**.

**Read Mark 10: 46- 52:**

- 1. Who was it the crowd had marginalized? What are the indicators that this man was ignored?**
- 2. Who did Jesus involve as a bridge between Bartimaeus and himself? Why is this significant?**
- 3. Who are the people we marginalize in our society?**

4. What would happen if we mimicked Jesus question, “What would you have me to do for you?” with the outcasts and forgotten of our city?

Read together I Corinthians 12: 21-26

1. Since this passage refers to the body of Christ, who are those within the body at South Abbotsford (or any church) that would seem to be weak, less honorable and unrepresentable?
2. What would it look like to treat the marginalized among us with special honor, dignity and as indispensable?
3. What application does this have on the marginalized in our city? How might your Life Group apply this truth to our Love Abbotsford outreach on June 13-20?

**WITNESS (LGLA):** (15 minutes)

- Focus today on developing your plans for LGLA (Life Groups Loving Abbotsford). Delegate roles and responsibilities to all involved.
- Be sure to contact Sylvia Pauls by June 7 for the \$100 seed money [spauls@southabbotsford.com](mailto:spauls@southabbotsford.com)
- If you need a refresher of LGLA, check out the website [www.southabbotsford.com](http://www.southabbotsford.com) and follow the links: Ministries>Adult Ministries>Life Groups Love Abbotsford.