

# BLOODLINES: Week 2 – The Power To Heal

## Open in Prayer

## Welcome/Introductions/Cast Vision

## Remind the Grow Group of the ground rules

## Share context of the story *[Provide context by sharing the information below.]*

In Luke 4, Jesus returns to His hometown of Nazareth to begin His ministry. He enters the synagogue and reads from Isaiah 61. That passage speaks of the anointing of the Spirit on the prophet who would preach the good news of salvation to the poor, proclaim freedom, heal the blind, and release the oppressed. Jesus' cruel rejection by His hometown in this passage is a picture of those who still reject His gospel of grace today.

## Tell the story – Luke 4:16-30 *[Have someone tell the story.]*

## Rebuild the story *[Group members tell the story together based on what they remember.]*

## Read the story out loud *[Read the scripture passage to see if anything was added or omitted.]*

## Discuss these questions:

1. What do we learn about God from this passage? *[Jesus knows what rejection feels like (Isaiah 53:3); while the law could only point out sin and condemn people, Jesus Christ gave His life to bring forgiveness of sin and salvation (Matthew 5:17); God calls for us to love others as He has loved us; God calls us to be generous and willing to share (I Timothy 6:18); the world will know that we are His disciples by our love for one another (John 13:35); God uses the unlikely to accomplish His purposes; etc.]*
2. What do we learn about Man/Us from this passage? *[I can allow my heart to become hardened to the Word of God; I can struggle with loving others as Jesus has called me to love them; I judge people by their outward appearance (I Samuel 16:7); I am unworthy, yet God still chooses to use me for His glory; I can let painful experiences from my past guide my thoughts and emotions towards others; I often avoid sharing my faith when I feel it might not be received well by others; etc.]*
3. What is God saying to you specifically through this passage as it pertains to your life, marriage, family, and work?
4. In light of what you've learned today, what do you need to do to obey God?

## Other Questions specific to this passage:

1. Some people find it easier to share their faith while on a mission trip as opposed to here at home. What can help us live intentionally "on mission" every day of our lives?
2. Tell about a time you experienced rejection from sharing your faith.

## Assign Next week's passage – Colossians 3:1-9 *[Ask someone to tell the story next week.]*

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## BLOODLINES: Week 2 – Leadership Coaching

*The purpose of this page is to help you sharpen your skills as a Grow Group leader. Each week, we will include concepts, challenges, and resources designed to assist you as you lead and shepherd your Grow Group and grow as a disciple yourself.*

### **Leading** *[learn to facilitate your group more effectively]*

Similar to Men's Grow Groups, women's groups provide an environment to be vulnerable and open up to talk about their lives. One challenge facing leaders of any group time can be protecting the group from individuals who monopolize the conversation. As a leader, look for natural pauses and call on other people by name as a way to invite others to speak. Recognize that the person speaking may be going through hard life issues. Make time to meet with this person outside of group and give them an opportunity to share.

### **Shepherding** *[know the sheep, feed the sheep, lead the sheep, protect the sheep]*

February 25<sup>th</sup> is the next Share Your Faith Workshop. This is a great Next Step that equips you to effectively share your faith with others. Encourage members of your Grow Group to attend individually or as a group. Feel free to contact Denise Fillingim, in the church office (679-3266), to get more details on how you and your group can be involved.

### **Developing** *[grow as a disciple yourself]*

"Lord, I am not worthy..." Matthew 8:8

This profession by the Roman Centurion is one of the most remarkable professions in all scripture. During this time, the Roman government forcefully ruled Israel. As a ranking Roman soldier, he culturally had all the authority and power over Jesus. Yet, with great compassion for his servant, this soldier recognized that Jesus is the only One with real authority. He recognized that Jesus is the true Lord that controls and directs all things. In the Bible, God is often called Lord to signify that God is the Master of all things.

Colossians 1:15-20 - "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. For it was the *Father's* good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, *I* say, whether things on earth or things in heaven."

In what ways do you overtake God's role as Lord in your life?