

Spiritual Desperados
Core Group Discussion Guide
June 11, 2017

Message Overview:

The series “Can I Say That?” is a series designed to help us develop a more authentic walk with God. It is easy to believe the lie that we have to hide our true selves from God. And so we end up disconnected from God, pretending to be things we aren’t. As we examine scripture, we find that those who walked with God most intimately said and did things that were more than a little shocking. The God we find in scripture wants our true selves. My prayer is that as we look at scripture, we will be challenged to move into greater intimacy with God.

This week’s message takes a look at a few desperate people in scripture and God’s response to their honest and daring moves toward him. What we will see from these stories is that God honors the spiritually desperate. However, the kind of desperation God honors requires our giving up of control....and this is difficult to do. Lets talk about that.

Text:

- Primary Text: Luke 8:40-56
- Psalms of Desperation:
 - o Psalm 63:1
 - o Psalm 42:1-2
 - o Psalm 73:25-26

Questions for Discussion:

1. Gather in groups of 4-6 and determine one or two key things that were taught this morning and write down one question you have about the message.
2. Donald Miller, author of the book *Blue like Jazz*, says “The opposite of love is not hate; it’s control.” Do you think he is right? Why or why not?
3. Read Genesis 3:1-6 How were the events described in this passage not just a sin issue, but a control issue?
4. Jeremy listed a number of ways we can know if we have control issues. Do you have any others you could add to the list?
5. How does trusting God a muzzle on our need to control?
6. If God honoring desperation is about releasing control of God and beginning to trust him, how can we begin release control and practice trust?