

CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week #3 – The MOST Misunderstood Thing
Jesus Ever Said.



GETTING STARTED

When you were growing up, who were the people you assumed “belonged” at church – and who did you assume didn’t? What shaped that idea for you?

THIS WEEK’S THEME

In John 14:6, when you hear Jesus say, “I am the way and the truth and the life... no one comes to the Father except through me,” what thoughts or feelings come up for you?

How have you seen this verse used – or misused – in ways that make faith feel exclusive or limiting?

What stood out to you about the contrast between the exclusive Old Covenant and the inclusive New Covenant Jesus introduces? How does understanding the historical context change the way you hear Jesus' words in John 14:6?

Read Luke 2:8–12. What does it mean to you that God chose them to be the first to hear the good news of Jesus' birth?

The shepherds had a low position in the culture of their day. Can you identify a moment in your life when God showed up in your life at a time you felt unworthy or overlooked?

How does this sermon challenge assumptions we carry about “who belongs” or “who God accepts”?

Where might God be inviting you to widen your own circle – to see people the way God sees them?

Is there someone in your life who needs to hear (or see through you) that God’s circle includes them? How would you best help them understand that message?

TAKING IT HOME

What could it look like for you to embody this wider circle—especially during the Christmas season?

PRAY

Jesus, thank You for coming not for the perfect but for the messy, the overlooked, and the hurting – people just like us. Thank You that Your circle is wider than we ever imagined. Help us receive Your grace, rest in Your love, and extend Your welcome to others. Make us a community that reflects Your heart for every person. Amen.