

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

Who Do You Think You Are?

Week 3: We Are Children
Isaiah 49:14-15

Week of May 8, 2022
(Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

One of our most desperate needs is to discover our true, God-given identity. When we realize who we are made to be *in Christ*, it revolutionizes our lives. This week we're discussing God's love for us by understanding the devoted love of a mother.

Kicking Off:

What's the best piece of parenting advice you've ever been given, or best general life advice you ever received from an older, wiser adult?

Discussion:

1. Where did you first hear about God's love for you, as described in 1 John 3:1a? How did you first see it lived out?
"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" (NIV)
2. What does Genesis 1:27 tell us about God's design for people? How do you think loving moms can especially reflect God's nature?
"So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." (NLT)
3. Sometimes, a national holiday devoted to mothers brings pain for those who've experienced the loss of a mom or a child, struggles with infertility, or anyone who's had a difficult relationship with their own mother or child. Can you relate? When you read Isaiah 49:14, how do you imagine the Israelites could have felt like God forgot them during their suffering and time in Babylon?
"Yet Jerusalem says, 'The LORD has deserted us; the Lord has forgotten us.'" (NLT)
4. What key insights did you gain from Jeff's message about this weekend's key Scripture, Isaiah 49:15b? (For a hint, Jeff explained how there was both a physical and a psychological connection.)
"Can a mother forget her nursing child? Can she feel no love for the child she has borne? But even if that were possible, I would not forget you!" (NLT)
5. For some context, see the next verse, Isaiah 49:16a. What would change in your life if you remembered that God loves you with such intensity — that your name is almost tattooed on his hand?
"See, I have written your name on the palms of my hands." (NLT)
6. When you think of an intense, caring love that makes no sense, what comes to your mind? What can a devoted mother's "illogical" love for her children teach us about how God views us as His masterpiece?

Wrapping Up:

For group members who experienced a great relationship with their mom, say a prayer of thanks. If that relationship is challenging or has had any significant issues, ask God to bring to mind an example of a really good mom.