

MIND THE GAP: Part 1

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever hesitated to get involved in a group because you felt like an outsider? Explain some of the thoughts that went through your head?
2. If you didn't grow up in a church, explain your experience when you first started attending church? Did you feel like an outsider? Why or why not?
3. Think of some of Jesus' parables, even the simple ways he related to people. How did he mind the gap between insiders and outsiders?
4. Read Philippians 2:5-8. How is this an example of bridging the gap?

Activity: Insider Language

Here are some commonly used Christian terms/phrases. If you have the time and resources, take a few minutes discussing the meaning of these words. How can the same ideas be communicated in a way that is accessible to insiders and outsiders.

"A blessing"

"For the glory of the Lord"

"Salvation"

"Saved"

"In Christ"

"Bearing fruit"

"In Jesus Name"

"Anointing"

Final Question

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field."

Matthew 13:44 is a vivid reminder of the efforts Jesus made to mind the gap, however it's also a reminder of how priceless this way of life is. How does the incomparable value of life in God's kingdom further emphasize the importance of bridging the gap?