



#FOR / WEEK 3 / June 9 & 10

Far too often today the church is known for what it is against, rather than what it is “for.” Which is ironic, because Jesus’ message in the Bible — over and over again — was all about who and what God was for! This summer we’re going to walk through the story of Jesus’ life and hear how Jesus was for peace, for inviting and loving your neighbors. For the poor, for the lost, for community, for children, for thankfulness, peace, hope and joy! ...and Jesus was for YOU! As people of faith and as the church, we want to be known for what Jesus was for!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. This week we are talking about how we have a God who is FOR healing. Name a time when you have prayed for healing, either for yourself or someone you care about.
2. Typically, when we turn to God for healing, what are the circumstances or situations in need healing?
3. Sometimes we need healing from physical ailments. Other times we need healing for psychological pain. Yet, other times in our families or in the workplace we need healing in relationship. It’s been said, “Healing can’t occur unless you can first identify what needs healing.” Do you think this is true? Can you think of a situation where “what needs healing” is hard to identify?
4. Pastor Hans talked about Elephants, Dinosaurs and Ostriches that need to be identified in order for healing to occur. Did you resonate with any of those creatures?
5. Elephants are those things that create tension and are big and obvious, but no one wants to talk about them? They are the “elephant in the room.” Have you ever had to face an elephant in the room in order to find healing?
6. Dinosaurs are those things from the past that just don’t go away. They served you well at one time (or maybe you convinced yourself that they served you well), but now it’s old and dead and needs to be put in a museum. Have you ever had to put to rest a dinosaur in your life in order to find healing?
7. Ostriches stick their head in the sand to move their eggs around and keep them warm. There’s a problem with that, though. When your head is in the sand you can’t see. Has God ever wanted to heal a situation in your life, but someone had their head in the sand and was too busy to receive God’s healing?
8. Read 3 short healing stories in **Luke 4:33-40**. Did Jesus’ healing depend on the attitude of those being healed? Who all was healed in those stories? Were there limits to the healing?
9. Is God shining a light on any Elephants, Dinosaurs and Ostriches in your life so that you might begin to receive healing?

MOVING FORWARD

In our homes and in our places of work, when things get nutty, tensions run high and dysfunction prevails, generally the issue that needs to be addressed is right there in plain view, but NO ONE want to talk about what's really going on. God invites you to name those Elephants, Dinosaurs and Ostriches and let God's healing do its work. God's healing has no bounds. No limits... because God is FOR healing, friends.