

## Week 3: Dealing with Differences

Those people. You know the ones. They're just different. Different dislikes, opinions, preferences. Different races, genders, and political parties. The world is full of them. And to others, *we* are them. How do we deal with THOSE people? Let's look at what Jesus did.

## **Discussion Questions**

- 1. Share your preferences: coffee or tea, beach or lake, early bird or night owl.
- 2. Reed mentioned, "The deeper the differences, the more divisive we become, and the more distance we put between ourselves and others." When have you found this to be true?
- 3. What makes it difficult to more toward people who aren't like you?
- 4. Read Luke 15:1–32. Who was Jesus addressing with the parables? Why do you think he told these stories to them?
- 5. When you read about the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son, what strikes you about Jesus's perspective?
- 6. A perspective shift happens when we shift our proximity to God and to those who aren't like us. What happens when we draw near to God and others?
- 7. If God loves THOSE people, how should that affect the way we interact with them? What is something you can do this week to move toward the heart of God and how he loves people?

## **Changing Your Mind**

It is hard to reach people when you are dismissing them. What if we were THOSE people who moved toward people who aren't like us? What if we loved others like God loves us? What would it look like to leave space at your table?