

EXCUSES

TRANSFORMED BY THE TRUTH

Questions for reflection and discussion

1. _____

Matthew 7:12; Mark 7:9-13

2. _____

Proverbs 24:12; Luke 16:19-23; James 4:17

3. _____

Matthew 5:7; 7:1-2; John 9:2, 34; James 2:13

1. What one "moment of truth" during Sunday's service impacted you most deeply? Why?
2. Read Mark 7:9-13. What "obligations" prevent you from responding to people's needs when you see them? When your plans are interrupted by an opportunity to meet an urgent need, what question(s) can you ask to decide what is best to do?
3. Read Luke 16:19-23. Who do you know that has needs but is outside your gate? How do you know whether God expects you to meet their needs?
4. Read Matthew 7:1-2 and 2 Thessalonians 3:10. How do these passages help you to decide what to do when you are confronted with another person's material neediness?
5. When was the last time you were tempted to make an excuse for not showing compassion to a person in need, but you overcame that temptation and acted in love? What were the results?