

Group Discussion Guide: Loving Relationship

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RECAP:

How vast is the Nullarbor?

A quick Google tells you it is 200,000 square kilometres of desert. But ask the first European to cross it, Edward John Eyre in 1840, and he will tell you how vast the Nullarbor is. He will recount how scorching the heat, how scarce the water, and how dangerous the journey. This is the difference between head knowledge, and heart knowledge.

- 1) God loves us (1 John 3:1)
- 2) More than that, he wants us to love him (Mark 12:30)

Sermon Reflection:

1. When it comes to knowledge of God and experience of God, is one of them more important than the other?

2. Psalm 34 is written by David when he was pretending to be insane before Abimilech as a means of saving his own life while fleeing from Saul (story in 1 Samuel 21). In the Psalm, David says: "Taste and see that the Lord is good" (v8). Read the chapters and reflect on how much of what David expresses in the Psalm is out of head knowledge, and how much is out of his experience of God's character in his own circumstances.

THE
GOD
EXPERIENCE

3. Can you remember a time when elements of God's character were made real to you through personal experiences? For example, can you point to God as your provider because of a scenario of miraculous provision?

4. How did experiencing God in your own situation change your relationship toward him?

5. Is there a particular characteristic of God which you know you need to have a more real knowledge of? Why not share it and have the group pray God's activity into that aspect of your life.

Email Devotional Reflection:

6. How has God demonstrated that he loves you as an individual?
