



RISE Refugee Video Session #5 Beginning a Welcoming Ministry

As you begin

Read 1 Peter 2:15 together. There is much foolish talk regarding foreigners. It has always been so. Some of it even comes from within the church! Why might God want us to silence this talk by doing good rather than by debate?

Read Luke 10:29-37. Why did the man ask, “And who is my neighbor?” What was his final realization?

Watch the video

Time: 13:27

Trainer: James Litsey—The Welcome Project

Talk it over

This video contains some very practical suggestions, but they aren’t meant to be a substitute for prayer. If you’re not already praying together, talk about how you might start. If you already have a group praying together, talk about how you might expand this group. Don’t be afraid to grow outside of your own congregation.

Moving forward together

What human resources has God already put in place in your church or faith community? Who are the Jesus people who are already interacting with refugees (teachers, health care workers, social workers, police, etc.)?

Do you know any refugees personally? If you do, please share with the group how you meet

them. If you don't, is God already showing you some reasons why? Is he giving you any ideas on how you can change that?

God promises wisdom to all who ask, except for the double-minded. Is there any double-mindedness among you? Do you or your congregation have any motivations for welcoming other than to please God? Are you afraid of anything?

Again, if you believe God wants you to move forward in this, your most important strategic decision is to find someone with whom you can regularly pray. How, where, when, and with whom will you pray about welcoming refugees?

More to think about

Might you or your church have some issues which could interfere with God's desire for this ministry? (The answer is always, yes!) Has he helped you identify some of these issues already?

Prayer points

You're already praying with others about how God wants you to welcome refugees. Now you have more to pray about! Keep praying together. Be patient but not complacent. Listen to the Holy Spirit and obey him. There is no advice more practical than that. God uses humble hearts.

Rise up for next week

Read 1 Peter 2:15 again. Now go do good. Silence some foolish talk!

If you'd like to discuss a visit from Greg, James, or Traci, contact the RISE project at: info@theriseproject.com.

Further questions or comments? Contact James Litsey, the trainer for this segment at james@theriseproject.com.

"In the place we left, there was no hope. We are looking for hope."

- "Bagaye"
from Democratic Republic

In appreciation

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