

DISCUSSION GUIDE

ACTIONS THAT ATTRACT
Until He Comes | 1 Thessalonians — Week 8
1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

ICEBREAKER: Which animals scare you most? Why?

OVERVIEW: Jesus is on a mission to seek and save the lost, and He carries out His mission through His followers. We are called to be fishers of men — to catch the lost for Christ. We are called to be His witnesses, sharing with others the good news of Jesus Christ. Effective evangelism involves three elements. Prayer — praying for the lost. Words — sharing the gospel message. And actions — living in a way that attracts the lost. This last element is our focus in this discussion. Let's dive deeper into how we can act in such a way that we attract (rather than repel) people to Christ.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. What is evangelism?
3. Why is evangelism important?
4. How can Christians overcome the common fear of witnessing?

5. Read Matthew 5:13-16.
 - a. What two metaphors does Christ use to describe His followers?
 - b. What are some of the ways that salt can be used (or what are some of the things that salt can do)?
 - c. How can Christians be like salt in the world?
 - d. One function of salt is that it makes you thirsty. How can Christians live so that our actions will make unbelievers thirsty for the living water of Jesus Christ?
6. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12.
 - a. This passage mentions four actions that attract. What are they?
 - b. One attractive action mentioned in this passage is brotherly love, or being a church that loves each other deeply. What are some practical ways that this Home Group can love each other in a way that would cause outsiders to want in?
 - c. Verse 11 says to "mind your own business," or avoid gossip. What is the definition of gossip from Sunday's sermon, and what are the common excuses or justifications people give for gossip?
 - d. What should we do instead of gossip?
 - e. How does avoiding gossip make us more attractive to the lost?
7. How do you need to grow to be a more attractive witness?

The Last Word: "People aren't turned off to Jesus, they're just tired of Christians who don't really follow Him." Anonymous

