

Rockford Reformed Church
Isaiah 53:3 - "Lonely for the Lonely"
6/17/18 – Pastor Tim Meendering

Questions for family/small group discussions:

Recall a time when you felt alienated, rejected, or lonely and how did it impact you?

1. Where do all the lonely people come from?

A. _____ from God.

- a. Read Isaiah 59:2. What is the condition described here and why is it so devastating for us?
- b. Read Jeremiah 2:13. What is our common response when our God-created hunger for love and relationship is not satisfied in him? What substitutes/cisterns have you turned to?

B. Separation from _____.

- a. What are some ways that you and we settle for coasting our way through life with shallow relationships? What does this look like? What are some of the reasons that we choose the shallow relationships?
- b. What do John 13:34, Rom. 13:8, and 1 Peter 1:22 say about what God looks for in our relationships with one another? What are some of the "one another" texts that guide our relationships and what kind of relational depth is required?

2. Lonely people belong in a relationship with _____.

- a. What does Isaiah 53:3 say about what Jesus suffered and how does this aspect of his suffering impact us today?
- b. How does the Father's abandonment of his Son on the cross change things for us? See Col. 1:21-22 and Isaiah 53:4.

1. You can take a _____ and get back up.

See 2 Cor. 4:8-9. Can you recall a time when you benefitted from wearing "gospel Kevlar?" How can we be "struck down, but not destroyed"?

2. You can love well when you _____ love well.

3. His _____ defines your _____.

Since Jesus became rejected and lonely to save those who are rejected and lonely (see Luke 19:10), how does that define our mission? Who can you pursue this week?

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