Joining Jesus, Session 6, Chapter 9

“What Does the Kingdom of God Look Like”

1) Think of a radio dial. To hear a station, you have to “tune in.” Discuss examples of Jesus “tuning in” to the needs of people around Him.

2) How do you “tune in” to the needs of people around you in your neighborhoods? The needs could be physical, spiritual, relational, emotional. How do you apply these questions:

- “Where can grace be applied?” (p. 84)
- “Where can a little love and truth make a difference?” (p. 84)

3) Pastor Finke says he doesn’t believe in coincidences any more, he only believes in “God-incidences” (p. 86). Do you agree with this? Why?

4) Pastor Finke tells of a woman walking down his street who was visibly upset. He saw the neighbor from his garage and went to talk to her and listen to her. He says, “Suffice it to say that she needed someone to ask how she was doing and to be willing to listen” (p. 87). Share an example when you tuned in to someone’s needs and shared God’s love like this (or someone did it for you).

5) How do these verses connect?
   +Philippians 2:3-4  +1 Thessalonians 3:12  +Colossians 1:5-6
Joining Jesus, Session 6, Chapter 10 – “The Mission of God”

1) What do you think of when you hear “mission of God”?  
Pastor Finke says: “The mission of God is to redeem and restore all things to the Kingdom of God, beginning with human beings” (p. 91). In our Lutheran way of speaking, “What does this mean?”

2) How do these passages explain God’s mission (and ours)?  
+Luke 19:10 – to seek and save the lost  
+1 Timothy 1:15-16 – God pours His grace on us to share with others  
+2 Corinthians 1:3-5 – God gives us comfort; we share it with others  
+1 Peter 2:6-10 – Jesus is the cornerstone; we are chosen to proclaim it

3) “Through our face people see the face of Jesus.” (p. 92)  
“Jesus brings Himself to people through us.” (p. 92)  
“We are the presence of Jesus made tangible in our families, neighborhoods, workplaces and schools.” (p. 95)  
What do these quotes mean?  
(Read the quote on page 94)

4) GPS – God’s Plan of Salvation! (p. 96)  
What does it mean for us that God is always “recalculating”?