

# THE HOLE IN OUR GOSPEL



Read Along in the Book:

***The Hole in Our Gospel***

Chapter 1: A Hole in the Whole

Chapter 2: A Coward for God

Chapter 3: You Lack One Thing

## **SMALL GROUP STUDY: SESSION 1, WHERE IS THE HOLE?**

*The Hole in Our Gospel* Journal: What experience this week was most meaningful to you?

*The Hole in Our Gospel* Book: What about your readings this week stood out? Why?

### Opening Questions:

1. What do you think most people would say Christians are known for?
2. What do you think Christians SHOULD be known for?
3. If your response to #1 and #2 are different, why do you think this is true?

Do you ever get the feeling that there must be more to the Christian life than the one you are experiencing? Do you ever sense that God has a bigger purpose for your life than the one you are living? Do you feel like something is missing?

There are times in our journey when we have a life-changing encounter that fills that missing gap. It may be a person we meet, a place we visit, or even an eye-opening Bible study. It changes how we see things. It expands our view and enlarges our hearts. It compels us to adjust the direction of our lives. Ask God to open your heart to what He wants to show and tell you.

### Watch Session 1 on DVD

1. What part of this video impacted you the most? How?
2. Rich shared how his first trip to Africa profoundly changed what he thought about the gospel. Think about a time, place, or event that forced you to think about life differently. Share that experience.
3. The central question throughout this study is “What does God expect of us?” In what areas do you think we are living up to His expectations and in what areas do you think we are not?
4. Have you ever felt like the gospel you have experienced was incomplete – like there was a hole in it? Please explain.

## Scripture Soundboard

### **Read Luke 4:16-21**

Do you think the points of Jesus' mission are only to be interpreted in a spiritual sense or also in a literal sense? Why? How does this mission of Jesus expand your understanding of the whole gospel?

Why do you think those who are poor are specifically identified as having the good news preached to them?

### **Read James 1:27**

What do you think of this verse as being a simple measuring stick regarding the authenticity of our faith in Christ? How do we measure up?

### **Read Micah 6:8 and Matthew 23:23**

How do these passages compare with Jesus' mission statement in Luke 4:16-21? Considering all these passages, how would you define Jesus' mission in three points?

### **Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-20**

What do you think it means to be an ambassador for Christ? Is it something you do or something you are? Explain your answer. In what ways have you been an ambassador?

### Sermon Notes: