Growth Group Questions

Reflect

1. How do you think this healing story connects with the idea of the barren fruit tree in vv6-9? Which character in vv.10-17 would bear closest resemblance to the barren fruit tree?
2. What did the woman do after she was healed?
3. What was the synagogue ruler’s response and why?
4. How did the synagogue ruler and others show hypocrisy in their attitudes toward people and Jesus and the Sabbath?
5. Read 1Samuel 14: 24-46. How isvv.43-46 a parallel to our story this week? Which character in 1 Sam.14 would be similar to the Pharisee and which is similar to Jesus?
6. What was Jonathan responsible for doing? See v.45. What was the result of Saul’s obsession with sticking to the rules but missing the point? (See 1 Samuel 15:17-23.)
7. Note 1Samuel 14 v.35. What does this verse reveal about Saul’s character?
8. What do mustard seeds and yeast have in common?
9. How are the two analogies of the kingdom of God connected to this healing story?

Respond

What means has God provided us with in order to set captive people free?

How do we go about advancing the kingdom?

How does this story and these two analogies give us hope in our work of advancing the kingdom?