

Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

It Begins At Home - Week 4

Scott Pilgrim

Introduction

Pastor Scott reminds us we each have a lens – a way of looking at things that colours our thoughts, decisions and relationships. It could be the lens of expectation, where we project our hopes and dreams onto others, placing expectations on their behaviour, priorities or choices; or the lens of circumstance, where our season of life – the pain, the suffering, the lightness or heaviness – means we see everything as dark and gloomy or as unrealistically light. Pastor Scott points us to the lens of the Kingdom of God, with its power to reshape our lives and our relationships with others.

Bible Passage

Amos 9:14-15, Ephesians 4:21-23

Discussion

1. Have you ever considered how you view the world and your relationships? Which lens do you see things through?
2. Have you considered how the lens you see things through effects your own decisions and behaviour? Is there something God is asking you to look at differently – a relationship, a situation?
3. In your wider family and community, you may notice how someone's lens can stop them seeing a new truth. How can you help them see things through the Kingdom lens?
4. Over the family series we have considered the legacy we will leave our children and others whose lives we impact. Which lens are you sharing with them? In what ways could you be more intentional in sharing the Kingdom lens?
5. Take a few moments to pray about the lens you see a particular person or situation through. Write down a prayer asking God to guide you in changing the lens. Include the 'not yet' factor in your prayer – that which God is showing you is to come.



Respond

Changing the way you view a situation or relationship can be hard at first. Discuss ways to catch yourself operating through the old lens.

Once you have reflected on the questions, discuss what God has been showing you and what He is saying to you. Is there anyone to whom you owe an apology as a result of the lens you have viewed things through? Ask God to help you find a way to apologise and for His Holy Spirit to bring restoration. Commit to the plan; write it down.