

1: IS SANCTUARY ALWAYS A CHURCH BUILDING?

How do we ensure that we create places of sanctuary for people, is sanctuary only to be found in church buildings?

2: WHAT DOES SAFETY LOOK LIKE?

For many people safety is not just a physical place how can we help people feel safe in the expression of their beliefs, their fears, their problems and the struggles they face?

READ ALOUD PSALM 91

How does this Psalm impact you?

"AT LAST I FEEL SAFE"

Brian talks of praying that we provide the world places of refuge, how realistic is this? The more broken people are the more challenging it is to help them, what's the solution?

How do we help without putting ourselves in danger, or is there always risk involved in providing sanctuary?

READ JAMES 2: 14 -18

What James is talking about is faith and action, we can believe in sanctuary, in safety but we actually need to do something about it.

"SANCTUARY IS LINKED TO HOSPITALITY" this could also mean that **"HOSPITALITY IS MORE THAN JUST SHARING FOOD WITH PEOPLE BUT IT'S ACTUALLY ABOUT SHARING LIFE WITH PEOPLE"** a big challenge that will involve a lot of work, both in faith and in deeds!

As a group discuss ways in which you can create sanctuary and safety for others.

REFLECT

Someone once said **"PEOPLE DON'T GO WHERE THE ACTION IS THEY GO WHERE THE LOVE IS"** how does that statement make you feel?

Sanctuary, security, safety people feel these things when they are loved.

"Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love doesn't strut, Doesn't have a swelled head, Doesn't force itself on others, Isn't always "me first," Doesn't fly off the handle, Doesn't keep score of the sins of others, Doesn't revel when others grovel, Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth, Puts up with anything, Trusts God always, Always looks for the best, Never looks back, But keeps going to the end."

SPEND A MOMENT REFLECTING ON THE LOVE OF GOD FOR YOU, ON COMING UNDER HIS WING AND WHAT THAT FEELS LIKE.

PRAY

Father God, we pray that we would be people who created sanctuaries. Give us the capacity to love, give us the imagination to dream and give us the strategy to make our dreams reality. We want to create safe places for others that they may come under the shelter of your wing and find sanctuary in you. **For the sake of Your Kingdom, Amen**