**“Make Room”**

**Dec-2/3, 2023**

**Speaker: Juli Boit**

**Opening:** [15 mins] We suggest you begin with an opening prayer and then a brief “catch up” or “icebreaker” before moving into the *scripture reflection* and *application questions*.

**Scripture Reflection:** [20 mins]Read **Matt 5:1-10.** After allowing the group time to reflect on the passage, ask them to share what most stands out to them.

**Application Questions:** [40 mins](*These questions will help you and your group dig deeper into the weekend sermon. Feel free to edit or use only those which fit your allotted time.)*

1. Juli encouraged, *“Instead of coming to quick conclusions about others (and ourselves), what if we begin to choose to pause and ‘to look again’ to see the value hidden beneath the brokenness.”*
	1. Share how easy or difficult you find it to see the value in others that might be hidden beneath their brokenness?
	2. Share how easy or difficult you find it to see the value in yourself that might be hidden beneath your brokenness?
2. Juli said, *“Nothing disarms our defenses, our pretenses as being welcomed, received as we are. Nothing expands our hearts, our homes as making room.”*
	1. Why do you think our defenses are disarmed and our hearts expanded when we are received as we are?
	2. Share an example of a time when you were welcomed, received as you are, or when someone made room for you. How did this make you feel?
3. Juli shared that after patients have been cared for & nursed back to health, they often end up joining the hospital staff.
	1. Why do you think this is a good practice? Do you see any relationship between this practice and God wanting to use those who have experienced his grace?
	2. Share an example of God using you after you experienced his grace in some area of your life?

**Closing & Prayer**: [15 mins]

* Have each person in your group share a prayer request, and then have someone pray for them.
* Pray that the CA church family would live in the grace of “making room” for others.
* Pray that God would continue to bless and grow CA’s 2023 “in person” attendance.