

**Series: God Loves People:** God loves everyone and is compassionate toward all people, including those who struggle with addiction. When a person ingests a substance or engages in an activity that provides temporary pleasure and then such acts become compulsive and interfere with ordinary life responsibilities, he or she is said to be an addict. Addictive behavior is widespread and is one of the reasons many addicts turn to Christ for help. Jesus has a special message for them and a special plan to help them, and we can be a part of that plan.

## Jesus Loves Addicts

Luke 4; Matthew 11

### 1. Jesus Has Good News for Addicts (Luke 4:16-19)

### 2. Jesus Has a Good Plan for Addicts (Luke 4:18)

God might immediately remove the desire, but chances are you're going to have to go through this process. **A healthy process that God empowers:**

- **Accurate assessment** of the addiction
- Use **overwhelming force** to quarantine addiction
- **Zero tolerance** because everything else in life will depend on your sobriety
- **Highest power** only comes through one source: Jesus Christ

### 3. Jesus Has a Good Reputation among Addicts (Matthew 11:19)

**LifeGroup Questions:** *All Life Groups Begin this month*

BEGIN IT (5min) – Time spent praising the Lord and opening prayer.

OPEN IT (10min) – What is the most ill you have ever been?

EXPLORE IT (60min) – Read Luke 4: 16-19 and review Sunday's sermon outline together. Share additional comments or notes from people in the group.

1. How does this sermon inspire or motivate you?
2. Is there anything that applies directly to you?
3. To what extent will people go to avoid hearing the truth about themselves?
4. Why do we sometimes try to avoid facing the truth about ourselves?

APPLY IT (15min) – What did God reveal to you in the sermon or among your discussion group? How will you apply this new understanding to your life?

#### LifeGroup Group Rules

1. *Anonymity:* We protect the identities of all group members.
2. *Confidentiality:* What is said in the group stays in the group. Nothing that is said or done in the group is ever discussed outside of the group (with-out permission).
3. *Self-Focus:* We are here to work on ourselves, not on others. We use "I" statements. We share our own experiences, insights, and feelings.