

MORALITY DEFINED

DISCUSSION GUIDE



Watch *Morality Defined* with your small group. Allow participants opportunity to share their thoughts on images or points that particularly stood out, things that intrigued or raised questions for them.



Read Judges 17:6 and Romans 13:8-10 out loud with your group. Allow time to consider the texts and reflect on the case presented in the film.



1. Philosopher and writer John Ruskin once said, "Taste is the only morality. Tell me what you like, and I'll tell you what you are." What is your reaction to Ruskin's assertion? What dangers can you see in a society that bases its morals on what people like? Are there some things that are right or wrong irrespective of what people may or may not like?
2. Your task is to create a new moral code. List five to ten principles designed to govern human social interactions below. What led you to make these selections? What principles or ethical considerations informed your choices? Where do you think these principles or ethics come from? What makes your choices more "right" than those of a person choosing the opposite?
3. Many cite examples of non-religious people living ethically and religious people behaving immorally as evidence a relationship between religion and morality is artificial and unnecessary. Why do you think some religious people fail to live up to their own standards of morality? What basis do non-believers find for their ethical behaviour?
4. In Psalm 40:8, David the King of Israel writes, "I take joy in doing your will, my God, for your instructions are written on my heart." What do you think David means by this statement? How might such a thing be possible? Do you think this offer is open for everyone, or does it only apply to Christians? What would it take for God to write His instructions on your heart?



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