

SESSION 3

Radical Empathy



[Read Small Group Guidelines](#)



Opening Prayer

“God, we’re grateful for this time to gather as a community. Give us humility as we listen and grace as we speak. Help us practice patience and kindness with one another. Lead our conversation. Amen.”



Overview

The third Jesus Way practice is Radical Empathy. Radical empathy invites us to seek to understand another person’s journey, emotions, and heart before rushing to judgment or response. It means listening deeply, making space for someone’s story, and honoring their humanity even when their experience is different from our own. Empathy is not agreement—it is the choice to understand with compassion, and it reflects the heart of Jesus toward others.



[Watch Session 3 Video Teaching: Radical Empathy](#)



Discussion Questions

1. Finish this phrase: "If you really knew me, you'd know that..."
2. What was something you heard that stuck with you right away?
- 3. When's the last time you experienced radical empathy? What did it look and feel like?**
4. Can you share a time when you wished someone had taken more time to understand what you were carrying? What would that have meant to you?
- 5. When's the last time you remember demonstrating empathy?**
6. What is your one takeaway from this week's practice?

If you have time, spend a couple of minutes writing down your response to the bonus question. Feel free to use paper, a phone, or a device. Sharing is optional. If we don't have time to get to it today, take a few minutes sometime this week to reflect on and answer the bonus question.

Bonus Question: How might practicing radical empathy actually change you, not just the other person?



Closing Prayer

"Lord, thank You for what we've shared and learned tonight. Continue forming us into people who reflect Your love. Help us carry these conversations into our lives this week. Amen."