



# What Are We Here For?

Presenter: Matt Shires



For The Verde Valley

Week 1:

“What Are We Here For?”

## I. Three basics...

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

II. If people are going to know that \_\_\_\_\_ is for them, they need to know that \_\_\_\_ are for them.

III. Our \_\_\_\_\_ needs to shift.

## SMALL TALK

1. What is your response to the bottom line from the sermon this week: “People won’t know Jesus is FOR them if they don’t know that we are FOR them.” Do you agree with this concept? Why or why not?

## VIEWPOINT

2. **Read Luke 10:29-37.** In this parable, Jesus describes the reaction of the priest and the Levite. What do you think these two men were feeling when they approached the man on the road?
3. How would the priest and the Levite have justified not doing something FOR the hurt man? Do you ever find yourself using some similar justifications to avoid being FOR people who are far from God?

## GETTING PERSONAL

4. Have you ever had times in your life where you felt like God was against you? What made you feel that way? What helped change that?
5. So often, we can avoid, or even ignore, the people we don’t know around us in our community out of fear. Fear of differences. Fear of rejection. Fear of challenges. Fear of the unknown. Fear of simply not knowing what to say or do. Can you identify with being afraid of building a relationship with people you don’t know in your workplace, in the community, or in your neighborhood? When you step out to meet someone, are your fears usually realized?
6. Sometimes the concern on the part of Christians is that to be FOR people means we are endorsing or condoning sinful behavior or lifestyles. What do you think? Is it possible to be FOR someone before they believe the same things as we do? What does that look like? How do we wrestle with that tension?

## MAKING PROGRESS

7. We believe that our mission as a church is to help people move from wherever they are, to where God wants them to be. What do you think it looks like for you to be personally involved in this mission? Is there something that you could or should be doing to personally to participate in this mission and help some others move closer to where God wants them to be?

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