

Introduction:

1. What is your attitude when you are facing an appointment you have with someone in authority?
2. How would you describe the ideal brother or sister? How does that differ from a real brother or sister?

Understanding:

3. Why was it necessary for Jesus to become fully human in order to cover our sins? Read Romans 8:3. What does it say about our own efforts to be good? What successfully replaces our own efforts? Why is that so great?
4. Today's scripture said "let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence". Read Ephesians 3:10-12. Why and how is faith hugely important here?
5. Pastor Dave said "Sooner or later God will GRACIOUSLY do something to show you that you are not as strong as you thought ". In 2 Corinthians 12 Paul has asked God to remove his thorn in the flesh. Now read verses 9 and 10. How is weakness good here? Think of your own life---how might you look at your weakness in a new light?
6. Read 1 John 2:1-2. What is there that at first glance looks almost like a contradiction? Why is it not a contradiction? How does that connect to the role of Jesus our brother? How does it personally encourage you?
7. In Hebrews 2:18 it says that since Jesus suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted. Think of Christ on the cross and in the wilderness. How did Jesus suffer when tempted in those two places? What were the temptations? When are you most likely to give in to similar temptations? How is Christ being your advocate an encouragement to you when you are faced with one of those temptations and give in to it?
8. Is acting as if we were trouble-free helpful? Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-5. How can troubles be used for good? Evaluate how much progress you have made doing this, and how you need to grow yet.
9. Read about the tax collector in Luke 18:9-14. Look at verse 13. In the light of today's sermon and scripture, are we allowed to look up towards heaven? Why? What is our attitude towards God and people as we do so?
10. Today's sermon was called Jesus our Brother. Read Hebrews 2:10-13. What gives us the right to call Jesus our brother? Now look at Romans 8:15. What gives you confidence that you will not be overwhelmed by your weaknesses?

Application:

11. Do you ever just pour out your heart to God? Just tell him what you're frustrated about, tell him why you feel like a loser in this area of your life, tell him why you've been feeling mad at Him. Expect to find mercy and grace. This week let this start to change your concept of prayer from being stiff and religiousto just spending time with someone you love to be with.
12. Pray for the vision for Jacksonville chapel, and how you personally fit into it. For us to be a community of people who are so aware of our weakness, and yet because of Jesus, we're okay with that. Because it makes us pray genuinely, it allows us to laugh at ourselves, and it makes us this magnetic community where people want to come because there's so much compassion here.