

## Connection Group Discussion Questions

For the week of October 18, 2015

Deuteronomy 23:12-14

### **New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

<sup>12</sup> You shall have a designated area outside the camp to which you shall go. <sup>13</sup> With your utensils you shall have a trowel; when you relieve yourself outside, you shall dig a hole with it and then cover up your excrement. <sup>14</sup> Because the LORD your God travels along with your camp, to save you and to hand over your enemies to you, therefore your camp must be holy, so that he may not see anything indecent among you and turn away from you.

### **Common English Bible (CEB)**

<sup>12</sup> *The latrines must be outside the camp. You will use them there, outside the camp.* <sup>13</sup> *Carry a shovel with the rest of your gear; once you have relieved yourself, use it to dig a hole, then refill it, covering your excrement.*

<sup>14</sup> *Do these things because the LORD your God travels with you, right in the middle of your camp, ready to save you and to hand your enemies over to you. For this reason your camp must be holy. The LORD must not see anything indecent among you, or he will turn away from you.*

### **Connection Questions:**

1. Describe what the statement, "God said it; I believe it," means to you.

2. Some people refer to the Bible as the infallible word of God; how do you feel about that statement?
  
3. Describe what you know about the Jewish faith and its oral tradition.
  
4. Have you ever heard the term biblical criticism? How does it relate to the concept of the Bible as the infallible word of God?
  
5. Our text in Deuteronomy 23 encourages the Israelites to go outside their camp for restroom purposes. Describe why you think the writer encouraged people to do this and consider the campsite as holy ground.
  
6. In the 1880s some in the church used this passage of scripture to fight the development of indoor plumbing. Why would they have tried to make this argument through using our text? Describe how this text could be seen in a different light.

