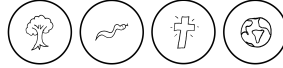


THE STORY OF GOD



Act II: The Fall - The Kingdom Rebels Against the King

April 10, 2022

CG Discussion Guide

CATCHING UP ON LIFE

This is when we update each other on the things that Jesus has been up to in our lives since we last saw each other. As A church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)
Suggested time: 10 minutes

- What can you thank God for this week?
- When were you most aware of Jesus' presence this week?
- When were you least aware of Jesus' presence this week?

REVIEW THE MISSION

Just like God the Father sent Jesus on a mission of reconciliation for us, Jesus sends us out as ambassadors of His reconciliation. We are called to make disciples wherever we go because Jesus changes everything. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20) · *Suggested time: 10-15 minutes*

- People:
 - Who in your life (family, coworkers, etc.) can we join you in praying for? Who has God put around you that is showing spiritual interest? Who is hurting and could use some love from our group?
 - Who are the people we are intentionally living on mission with (neighbors, Serve CLT partner organizations, or a specific demographic in Charlotte)? What are our upcoming plans to love, serve, and build relationships with this group?
- Plan:
 - Are there any hangouts already planned, or an extra hangout we could plan to create a way for these friends to connect with our group?
- Pray:
 - Prayer is the fuel of God's mission. Let's pray for our people by name; pray for their needs, and opportunities to have spiritual conversations that help them take next steps toward Jesus.

SCRIPTURE AND SERMON DISCUSSION

God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, show us our sin, and strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a Community Group throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25) · *Suggested Time: 30-40 minutes*

Read Genesis 3:1-19 and Recap the Sermon.

1. What stood out to you from the Scriptures or the sermon? What comforted you? What convicted you?
2. In what ways (whether the world, your life, or yourself) do you find yourself asking the question - "Why is this, or why am I, so messed up?" In other words - how do you see the brokenness of the world come into play all around you?

Read Genesis 3:1-5.

God says - "I am good. The tree is bad. Trust me."

The Devil says - "God is bad. The tree is good. Trust me."

All sin is a battle over whether we will trust that God is after our good.

3. How do you see the temptation in your own life to trust yourself over God when it comes to sin? How do you see the deceptive question - "Did God actually say?" show up in your life? Is there an area of your life where you're tempted to think God is withholding from you, and you need to sin to get what you want?

Read Genesis 3:8-13

When Adam and Eve sin they hide and God seeks them. When we sin, we often think it's the opposite. We think God hides and we have to seek Him. This makes us want to justify or downplay our sin. But the invitation is that we can feel the full weight of our sin, because we know God has grace for all of it.

As Martin Luther said, "God does not save those who are only imaginary sinners. Be a sinner, and let your sins be strong, but let your trust in Christ be stronger, and rejoice in Christ who is the victor over sin, death, and the world."

4. How does going deeper into the weight of your sin help you receive the gospel more? How does "letting your sins be strong" draw you deeper into rejoicing at what Christ has done for you?
5. Pray for Easter Weekend. Pray for new folks who may attend, for folks you're inviting, and for yourself - that we would all hear and respond to the good news of the gospel as we celebrate the resurrection of Christ together.

ENGAGE THE HEART

Jesus calls us to walk in the light, confessing our sins to God and each other. God's Spirit works through confession and community to lead us to repentance. (Romans 3:23-24, James 5:16 and 1 John 1:5-10)

Suggested Time: 30-45 minutes