

MADE NEW

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

GROUP CHECK-IN:

Part of the rhythms of us as a group is to move beyond just *learning* but moving through life together. This space to start is a great way to begin to move into sharing rhythms, trusting, and being faithful with the relationships entrusted to us.

Ask this question: ***"What or who is making you feel hopeful or joyful this week? What's one area we can pray over, perhaps where hope feels lacking??"***

Give space for everyone to answer, stopping to pray for one another as the Holy Spirit leads.

SERIES OVERVIEW:

We continue this week with our series "Made New." Over the next five weeks, we will be centered around one question: *"What does it mean to really flourish spiritually?"* With this idea of spiritual flourishing, we are going to look through Scripture and dive into five postures that need to be in place for us to spiritually flourish. There are likely more, and for sure dive in as the Holy Spirit leads your group! But as we examine these five, each of these is born out of a deep dive into God's Word.

SUNDAY RECAP:

We looked at our third posture: our identity as members of the family of God. **Jesus redeems the mess in our families and gives us a place and a purpose in His family.** Pastor Dave took us to Romans 8. To refresh, read **Romans 8** together as a group.



CONVERSATION QUESTIONS:

- What is the hardest part for you about understanding the concept of family? Are there any definitions from your own experience that you struggle to fight against when you look at fellow brothers and sisters in Christ as family? *(Maybe take time to talk about how the Holy Spirit is challenging you, confess areas of unbelief or disobedience in living out His ways, offer up a prayer for one another, encourage one another in the truth of God's Word.)*
- Pastor Dave gave three statements that we find about being made new in God's family: ***we are loved, we belong, we have a purpose.*** Talk about how you/your community is actively believing this truth and living out this truth to others. (For example: does your community show a good job at ensuring all members belong? How is that sense of belonging fleshed out?) In what ways might the Holy Spirit be leading you to adjust or realign your group's identity as family of God?

EVERY DAY TO EVERYONE:

As we hear God's Word, examine God's Word, our lives move in response to His Word and the leading of the Holy Spirit. We want you to take space to process what steps to take so that we can make much of Jesus every day to everyone. Don't feel pressured to move in bigger steps than where God has you - you can process these individually or move in step as a group.

• ***First Steps (I AM LOVED):***

The first step for this week is just the reminder of the love of Jesus. Who is one person this week you can tangibly show the love of Jesus to? Is there someone you can bless, you can speak lovingly towards, or however the Spirit leads? Take a moment to pray in this regard and then be obedient to what Jesus asks you to do.

- ***Next Steps (BELONG):***

Is there someone in your life - either for you as an individual or your community - that you can take a step further to love over the long haul? To dive deeper into a relationship where they belong - you actively seek out, talk to, pray with, love on, etc. Maybe someone who doesn't have a physical family nearby. Maybe someone who lives alone. Maybe someone who doesn't have support. A co-worker no one talks to. Pray about what it would mean to display the love of Jesus by adopting this person/persons into your everyday rhythms. To show them belonging through loving over the long haul.

- ***Further Steps (PURPOSEFUL):***

When we become part of God's family he doesn't only give us a place but a purpose. Have you spent time in prayer asking clarity for what His purpose is in your everyday? Why has he entrusted you with the space you work? Not just to make money, but to make much of Him. But this is hard - it is bigger than inviting someone to sit with you on Sunday (though that is a great step!) It's about asking the Holy Spirit to show you what happens where you are Monday thru Saturday. Make space to pray through this, asking Jesus to reveal by His Spirit how you can be faithful and purposeful during the whole of your work, in every space and place.

Close in prayer, asking Jesus to strengthen you and the Holy Spirit to lead you as you take steps to make much of Him in your every day to your everyone.