THE FATHER'S HEARY

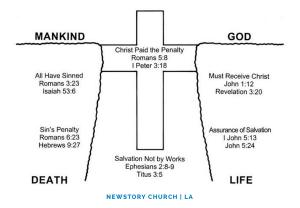
A NEWSTORY SERIES

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Series: The Father's Heart

Part 4 – Half vs. Full Story Pastor Tom Kang

- I) Stories reveal the heart. Share a story or two about yourself that no one in your group has heard before (ex: something about your childhood best friend, a favorite toy or pastime of yours, your most memorable family vacation, etc.) Why does this story resonate with you?
- 2) Did you grow up learning either the "Four Spiritual Laws" or the following Bridge Illustration"? If so, share your experience and how it has (or has not) shaped your faith journey.



3) Read Genesis 1:28 & 2:15. Discuss why you think these are commonly known as the "Cultural Mandate" and/or "Creation Mandate." Also discuss how a good understanding of this mandate helps guide the Christian in her/his response to culture (rather than simply condemning, criticizing or consuming it). How is the believer called to CREATE culture?

4) Fill in the blanks below based on the Half/Full Story message from this past Sunday:



Next discuss your thoughts on the paradigm above and where you have honestly found yourself to be (theologically, ideologically and spiritually) and what are those implications?

- 5) Why do you suppose the first two chapters of the Bible (Genesis 1,2) as well as the last two (Revelation 21,22) and their inherent meta-themes often go neglected, especially in comparison to some other meta-themes and doctrines (ex: The Fall, Salvation)?
- 6) Pastor Tom closed his message by saying the Father's heart and Full Biblical Story answer life's biggest questions as seen below.
 - Where did I come from? (Creation)
 - What went wrong? (The Fall)
 - How do we fix this mess? (Redemption)
 - What am I here for? (Restoration)

You might also think of God's Full Story as the only story that explains the way things were (Creation), the way things are (Fall), the way things could be (Redemption) and the way things will be (Restoration). Why is this important? What happens when any of them are neglected? How might the acceptance of the Father's heart and the Full Biblical story affect your passions and practice moving forward?