



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Part 2: Calling

Icebreaker: Have 1 or 2 people in your group share their short testimony. Helpful Tip - Answer the following in 5 minutes: *What was your life like before Jesus? How did you meet Jesus? What has life been like since?*

1. Did you identify with any of the traits mentioned at the beginning of the sermon (*fear of confrontation; rarely assertive; apologize when unnecessary; value praise from others*)? Can you share a personal example? What do you think it means to be a "people-pleaser," and how might this behavior affect a person's life and relationships? How does Galatians 1:10 speak into this? How do you personally distinguish between seeking human approval and seeking to please God in your daily life?

2. Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5 aloud as a group. What are some things you observe about the gospel and the message of the cross, especially as it relates to an unbelieving world? Have you ever experienced these elements in your own life? How do you navigate conversations about faith with people who may find the gospel "foolishness"?

3. Paul speaks of God setting him apart from his mother's womb (Galatians 1:15). Elsewhere he speaks of every believer being predestined, chosen (Ephesians 1:3-14). These are big concepts. How does this understanding of God's design impact your view of purpose and calling? Do you believe God has a unique purpose for each person from the moment of their birth (Ephesians 2:10)? How can we discern and step into the good works God has prepared for us? What is your purpose in life? What is your calling?

4. Discuss the concept of how leaders are both born & made. Discuss the "call" and "stall" concepts too. Can you think of biblical examples where leaders underwent a period of "stalling" (or even Paul's withdrawal as we see in Galatians 1:17-19) before fulfilling their roles? How did this preparation shape their leadership? Then share a personal experience of how someone you know has grown into a leadership role.



5. In the sermon, the artistic power of light was used as a metaphor for the power of the gospel. How does the gospel shine in and through your life, and how has it affected what others see?

6. Identify a person in your life who needs a "But when God" moment (Galatians 1:15) where the light of the gospel shines on her/him in such an undeniable way that the picture is radically changed? How can you be "an apostle Paul" to them this month?