

STARTING OVER

Starting Over Discussion Questions

January 3, 2016 - Part 1: Three Myths

HANGOUT (*warming up to the topic*)

1. Describe a time when you ran into trouble, big or small, because you didn't follow the directions.
2. Talk about a time when you've seen someone repeat the same mistakes in an area of life that matters most—finances, relationships, parenting, leadership, romance. Were his or her errors obvious to you? If so, why do you think you were able to see the situation more clearly than that person?
3. When have you been guilty of assuming that experience alone makes you wiser or that since you know better you'll do better in the future? What were the results of that assumption?
4. When have you made a poor decision because you believed time was against you? What was the cost of rushing into that decision?

HEARING (*listening to God thru Scripture*)

Leader Notes: *Key theme from the teaching: next time can be better than last time—not because you want it to be, but because you plan for it to be. It will take more than experience and knowing better. You can't rush things. But if you let him, God will bring good from failure of round one whether it was your doing or not. Give God the opportunity to redeem and add value to your past.*

5. Read Romans 8:28. Why can it be so difficult to believe that God is willing and able to redeem our pasts?

HUDDLE (*making it personal and praying together — break up into even small groups for this part of the discussion*)

6. In what area of life are you currently starting over? What mistakes do you want to avoid repeating?