

## Growth Group Discussion

### Fall

#### Week 5

We use these times to *grow spiritually and to deepen our relationships*.

In this message series, we're focusing on how Jesus is "better"—better than any other pursuit or priority we could build our lives around. Right now, we're focusing on seven aspects in which Jesus is **better**.

**Theme Passage:** In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. The Son is **the radiance of God's glory** and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.— Hebrews 1:1-3

### Getting to Know You

Describe a time when you experienced a glimpse of glory—perhaps through art, music, sports, nature, or discovering or learning something. What did you feel?

### Better.—Part III

### Reflection and Discussion

1. What stood out to you most from Sunday's message?

2. We talked about some deep truths on Sunday. What do you think about the idea that God's love for and mercy towards us is rooted in His character and for His name's sake (i.e. his glory)? Does it sound odd to you? How about His intense passion for His glory? If so, do you think reading scriptures, meditating, praying, and discussing may shape your future thinking on this?

#### Reference Scriptures:

Isa 48:9,11	John 12:27-28
Eze 20:14, 36:22-23,32	Matt 6:9
Isa 43:7	Rom 3:24-26,9:22-23,15:8-9
Ex 9:16,14:4	Eph 1:6,12,14
I Sam 8:4-6,12:22	

3. In light of this discussion (and scriptures), what do you think Paul meant when he wrote to Timothy that "if we are faithless, he will remain faithful..." in 2 Tim 2:13 (Hint: read the rest of the passage)

4. How do you think a realization of and focus on this fundamental aspect of God's character might shape how you interact with (pray to) Him? (Biblical examples include: Jer 14:7,Ps 79:9, 25:11, 115:1, 143:11, 31:1,3; Dan 9:16-17)

5. Do a bit of self reflection on the question from Sunday: Do you feel most loved by God because He makes much of you or because He's freed you to enjoy making much of Him forever?

6. Is there any area in which you need to re-orient ("re-align") your life or actions to properly value the One who is valuable? What could you do that would bring Him glory or shine forth His glory?

## **Family Reminders**

### **Teen Retreat**

We'll be hosting a teen retreat serving teens throughout Florida the weekend of **October 27th to 29th**. Sign up at the Welcome Center to help with housing and/or to volunteer! For more info, contact Chip Fowler at (904) 545-4446.

### **Camping Trip—Don't Wait!**

Campsite reservations for our annual Camping Trip to Stephen Foster campground in Georgia the weekend of **November 10-12** (Friday and Saturday nights) are happening at the Welcome Center on Sundays. You can pay with cash, credit card, or check. Any additional nights you wish to stay can be made directly with the campground (Stephen C. Foster State Park at 1- 800-864-7275).

### **Special Offering**

You can turn in a talent goal card (for the first time or additional goals) and/or give to our special offering this year **AT ANY TIME** during the year, using red envelopes in the pews. There is no special giving date or cutoff date (other than New Year's Eve:) We can do it!

**Overall Talent Goal: \$80K**

**Offered To Date: \$52K**