

# FORWARD TO FREEDOM

## FAITH RENEWAL

### REVISITING OUR PERSONAL CREED (BELIEF SYSTEM)

- ▶ What we believe about the following 8 concepts will determine how we behave and live our life, as well as how much spiritual freedom we will experience.
  - Success • Significance • Fulfillment • Satisfaction • Happiness
  - Fun • Security • Peace
- ▶ The way we \_\_\_\_\_ these concepts is often in \_\_\_\_\_ with how God defines them.
- ▶ Only the truth about these things we want and seek will set us free (John 8:32).

### SUCCESS: KEY CONCEPT \_\_\_\_\_

(Joshua 1:7-8; Acts 19:23-25, 2 Peter 1:3-11; 3 John 2)

- ▶ *Success is accepting God's goal(s) for our life & by His grace becoming what He has called us to be.*

### SIGNIFICANCE: KEY CONCEPT \_\_\_\_\_

(1 Corinthians 3:13-14; Acts 5:33-40; 1 Timothy 4:7-8)

- ▶ *What is forgotten in time is of little significance; what is remembered for eternity is of greatest significance.*

### FULFILLMENT: KEY CONCEPT \_\_\_\_\_

(2 Timothy 4:5; Romans 2:1-8; Matthew 25:14-30)

- ▶ *Fulfillment is discovering our own uniqueness in Christ & using our gifts to edify others & glorify God.*  
Spiritual Gifts Inventory—<http://www.creeksideeg.com/volunteer>

### SATISFACTION: KEY CONCEPT \_\_\_\_\_

(Proverbs 18:24; Matthew 5:6; 2 Timothy 4:7; 1 Thessalonians 5:18)

- ▶ *Satisfaction comes from living righteously & seeking to raise the quality of relationships, service & products we are involved with.*

### HAPPINESS: KEY CONCEPT \_\_\_\_\_ WHAT WE \_\_\_\_\_

(1 Timothy 6:6-8; Philippians 4:12; 1 Thessalonians 5:18)

- ▶ *Happiness is being thankful rather than focusing on what we don't have – because happy are the people who want what they (already) have.*

### FUN: KEY CONCEPT \_\_\_\_\_

(Galatians 1:10; 5:1; Romans 14:22; 2 Samuel 6:14-23)

- ▶ *The secret is removing non-spiritual inhibitors.*

### SECURITY: KEY CONCEPT — RELATING TO THE \_\_\_\_\_

(John 10:27-30; Romans 8:31-39; Ephesians 1:13, 14)

- ▶ *Insecurity is depending upon temporal things that we have no right or ability to control.*

### PEACE: KEY CONCEPT \_\_\_\_\_

- ▶ *The secret to peace is understanding that it is primarily an internal issue.*

- Peace \_\_\_\_\_ God                      This we \_\_\_\_\_ !
- Peace \_\_\_\_\_ God                      This we \_\_\_\_\_ !
- Peace \_\_\_\_\_                              This we \_\_\_\_\_ !



## Prayer

Begin your time together in prayer by asking God to better align each of our personal beliefs with the truths of Word of God.

## My Story

Have you ever gotten lost while driving, hiking, or walking around a store? Share a fun story about a time you found yourself going the wrong direction.

## Digging Deep

1) Read **Joshua 1:1-9**. What kinds of goals did God command Joshua to pursue to be "successful?" In what ways does this kind of success differ from our worldly standards today?

2) How does focusing on the wrong things in the short-term hinder your life's trajectory in the long-term? Discuss why this is important to remember in the life of a Christ follower.

## Digging Deeper

3) Read **1 Timothy 6:6-8**. As we navigate the marathon of the Christian life, how is the quality of contentment a reflection of a person's faith journey? How would you rate your level of day-to-day contentment?

4) The Bible lists joy as one of the fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22). Why do you think the quality of joy is important in the life of a believer? How does a joyous Christ-follower help spread the message of the gospel? Would you describe your own faith journey this way?

5) Read **Romans 12:4-8**, and **1 Peter 4:10**. How has using your personal spiritual gifts to serve others brought you fulfillment? If you are unsure about your own gifts, take the Spiritual Gifts Survey on the Creekside website ([creeksideeg.com/volunteer](http://creeksideeg.com/volunteer)) to learn more about how you are uniquely gifted. Then sign up (online) and serve!

6) Read **1 Timothy 4:7-8**. God cares how we spend our time. What examples can you give of things that we can do with our time now that will matter for eternity.

## Taking it Home

7) If you were to record all of your thoughts and desires in a single day, what would you be thinking most about; about least? What would it say about your heart alignment with God?

8) Read **Galatians 1:10** and **5:1**. How do these verses help us remove non-biblical priorities from our lives?

9) What is one thing you can do to bring your life into more alignment with God's plan for you? What is one thing you need to STOP doing to bring your life into greater alignment with God?

## Prayer

Pray with your group that we would better understand the gifts that God has given to us, and we would use them wherever God has placed us.