

When you know who you are, you will know what to do.

Michael Warren – January 1, 2023

Small Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion. Expect God to move through your time together!

Pacing Your Group

Move quickly through “observation” leaving enough time for “reflection”, “discussion”, and “surrender.”

Scripture Reading

Re-read the scripture passages as needed when you discuss the questions.

Observation: *What does this scripture passage say?*

Reflection and Discussion: *What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures?*

How do the scriptures connect to everyday life.

- New Year's resolutions don't tend to work - because they are usually attempts we make to edit our external reality, without taking the time to edit our internal reality. Our external behavior flows out of our inner beliefs and values. This year, don't ask yourself how you can make your life different in 2023. Ask yourself what inner beliefs and values need to change in order to make outer change inevitable.* – Steve Lawson (Secular Productivity Entrepreneur)
 - Do New Year's Resolutions ever work?
- Here are examples of “I AM” statements that match our experience of life with truths about who God is and who we are in relationship to Him:
 - When I **feel dirty and condemned by my past**, God says **I am cleaned up, healed up, and covered completely** (1 John 1:7, Psalm 147:3, Psalm 103:12)
 - When I **am afraid that things are falling apart**, God says **I am holding all things together** (Col 1:17).
 - When I **am tired and completely drained**, God says **I am the best rest** (Matt 11:28-30).
 - When I **enjoy a really good visit with my friends**, God says **I am the giver of good gifts** (James 1:17).
 - Take a minute to write an “I Am” statement that matches your experience of life right now and a truth statement about God. Write one for a positive aspect of your life and a troubled aspect of your life. Share with the group
- Take some time to read together: Matthew 22:36-40
 - How important do you think this scripture is when talking about our identity in Christ?
 - How might this verse inform our daily plans?
- Take some time to read together: John 15:5, Galatians 5:22-23, James 4:13-17, Psalm 23:1-3
 - What does it mean to be a “follower” of Christ? What is our role/what do we do as a follower?
- Take some time to read together: 2 Corinthians 1:3-4, Ephesians 2:8-10
 - What abilities and experiences do all followers of Christ bring to their relationships?
 - Where has God uniquely gifted you or ministered to you that could be leveraged in your relationships?

Surrender: *Responding to God's voice.*

- What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?

**** Take some time to pray for one another in response to what has been discussed today ****

We're here!

We would love to hear about how things are going in your life group!
Reach out any time with questions, ideas, thoughts, or concerns.

Contact Care & Community Pastor, Michael Warren, (907) 646-4830, communitylife@changepointalaska.com
A primary resource in compiling these questions has been the *NIV Life Application Study Bible* (Zondervan, 1984)