



# START OVER

## Small Group Guide: Start Over - Week 4

**Series:** Start Over

**Main Scripture:** Acts 20:7-12, Philippians 3:13-14

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### Icebreaker

**Icebreaker Question:** Share one time in your life when you wished you could have a "do-over" or fresh start. What did you learn from that experience?

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### Key Takeaways

1. **God's grace makes starting over possible - We cannot go back, but through Christ, we can always start fresh.**
  2. **We have everything we need - God has already invested in us everything necessary for a godly life (2 Peter 1:3).**
  3. **Grace compels us to invest in others - Being a place of grace means going beyond ourselves for the good of others.**
  4. **It's not about us - Our calling is to invest in the next generation, the lost, the hurting, and the ignored.**
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## Discussion Questions

### Understanding Grace

1. How does God's grace enable us to start over, regardless of our past? Can you share a personal example?
2. What is the difference between "surviving church" and "meeting Jesus"? How does this distinction change our approach to ministry?

### Consumer vs. Investor

3. The sermon contrasts being a "consumer" versus an "investor" in church life. Which mindset do you tend to lean toward? Why?
4. What are some practical ways we can shift from consuming to investing in our church community?

### The Story of Eutychus (Acts 20:7-12)

5. In the Eutychus story, Paul was willing to stop his sermon and step down to minister to someone in need. What does this teach us about priorities in ministry?
6. Who are the "Eutychus" people in our community - those who are ignored, falling away, or struggling? How can we notice and reach them?

### Investing in Others

7. The sermon mentions investing in "the next generation, the lost, wandering, hurting, and the ignored." Which of these groups do you feel most called to invest in? What's holding you back?
8. What does it mean to "breathe life into others"? Can you think of someone who breathed life into you during a difficult season?



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## Practical Applications

### This Week's Challenge

Choose ONE of the following to commit to this week:

#### Personal Investment:

- Reach out to someone who may feel ignored or overlooked and invite them to coffee or a meal
- Mentor or encourage someone from the next generation
- Share your "start over" story with someone who needs hope

#### Church Investment:

- Volunteer in a ministry that serves those who are hurting or lost
- Pray specifically for the next generation in your church
- Identify one way you've been a "consumer" and shift to being an "investor"

#### Grace in Action:

- Extend grace to someone who has hurt you
- Ask God to reveal areas where you've been selfish and need to go beyond yourself
- Practice humility by stepping down from your comfort zone to serve someone in need

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### Reflection Questions for Personal Journaling

1. What past experiences do I need to let go of to fully embrace the fresh start God offers?
2. In what ways has God already invested in me? How can I steward that investment better?
3. Where is God calling me to be more humble and willing to "step down" for others?



## Prayer Focus

### Pray together for:

- Those in your group who need a fresh start in specific areas of life
- The next generation in your church and community
- Eyes to see the "ignored" and "unnoticed" around you
- A spirit of investment rather than consumption in your church
- Courage to extend grace to others as God has extended it to you

**Personal Prayer Requests:** (Allow time for group members to share and pray for one another)

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## Looking Ahead

### Before Next Week:

Before next week's meeting, reflect on this question: **"What investment is God calling me to make in someone else's life?"**

Be prepared to share your experience of putting this week's challenge into action.

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## Closing Thought

"It's not about me. It's not about you. It's about investing into people that need to start over with Jesus."