

## THE BATTLE FOR WHO YOU ARE

MATTHEW 3:13-4:11

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# NIGHT OF THX! - November 19th - 6pm

Join us on Wednesday, November 19 at 6pm for a special evening of dinner and worship as we come together as a church family to give thanks. It is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on God's blessings and enjoy fellowship together. Did we mention that catering is by Turf?!?! Yummm!

Tickets are available now on our app and FB page!

#### **RELATIONAL CONNECT & CHECK-IN**

- So often, when meeting someone new you're asked, "What do you do?". Go around the room and trying describing yourself instead as "Who you are." Was the difficult? Why?

## **GROUP DISCUSSION**

# Read Matthew 3:13 through Matthew 4:11. What immediately sticks out to you?

- 1. What's a label...good or bad...that has been placed on you at some point in your life? Whether by yourself or someone else. How did that affect or shape your life?
- 2. Why do you think the enemy starts with "If you are..." instead of a more obvious temptation? What does this say about the power of doubt?
- 3. Trap #1 Circumstance: When life is hard, what's the first thing you tend to believe about God? What's one circumstance that is testing your view of God's faithfulness right now...or has in the past? What can you preach to yourself in these moments?
- 4. Trap #2 Comparison: Where are you most tempted to measure worth against others (appearance, income, parenting, platform)? How does Ephesians 2:10 reframe success?
- 5. The "lasagna" story waiting for God's timing what's one area where you sense God "firming" you?
- 6. Trap #3 Competition: Where in your life do you feel pressure to "keep up" or "get ahead"? What's the subtle lies that the enemy is trying to get you to believe in those moments?
- 7. Trap #4 Condemnation: What accusations tend to stick to you the most? What does the Holy Spirit say instead? (John 8; "Neither do I condemn you go, and sin no more.")
- 8. "God's acceptance is the power that liberates you, not the reward for liberating yourself." Where do you need to rest in that this week?
- 9. Our culture's identity crisis is real. How can our group be a counterculture of truth and belonging?

#### **ACTION STEP**

Each morning this week, before checking your phone or starting your day, declare: "Father, I am Your beloved. I don't have to prove it today." Then thank God for one area of your life that feels uncertain and ask Him to anchor it in His truth (James 1:23-25; Rom 8:38-39)

**Lastly:** How can we pray as a group for you as a group? Be honest...