

SMALL GROUPS

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

FEBRUARY 26, 2017

PATHWAYS TO THE KING: TENACIOUS ENDURANCE

LISA PETERS

1. What stood out to you from Sunday's message?
2. Out of the seven Pathways we've discussed in this series, is there one or two that require more Tenacious Endurance from you in this season? Take some time to share with one another.
3. Discuss this quote by John Eldredge: John 10:10 says: *"The thief [meaning Satan, God's enemy] comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."*

'Have you ever wondered why Jesus married those two statements? I mean, He says them in one breath. And He has His reasons. By all means, God intends life for you. But right now, that life is opposed. It doesn't just roll in on a tray. There is a thief. He comes to steal and kill and destroy. In other words, yes, the offer is life, but you're going to have to fight for it because there's an enemy in your life with a different agenda. There is something set against us. We are at war.'

Why is it important to understand the reality that we are in a spiritual battle and our abundant life in Christ is opposed? Have you thought intentionally about this before? What are some ways that you are currently experiencing opposition?

4. One of our Church wide prayer goals for 2017 is stated this way: *To experience an increased sense of ownership for one another in relationship, leading to a greater experience of Biblical community.* Why is it so important for human beings to live in vulnerable, transparent community? Pastor Lisa suggested that part of the way this kind of community is formed is through the confessing of sin to one another. Why might this be important? (cf. James 5:16). Where have you or are you currently experiencing the most significant sense of vulnerable, transparent community?
5. What are some of the ways that you intentionally seek to “fix your gaze on Jesus”? Have you found any certain practices to be helpful, scripture, music, walking in nature, etc?
6. We belong to each other in this church family (in the body of Christ). How can you take ownership for the people around you? When is the last time you intentionally spoke to someone at church that you did not know? How did the conversation go? Discuss as a group how you could together reach out to some others outside of your current social circle (hint: simple is best!).
7. Spend time in listening prayer: *“Jesus, is there anything you want me personally, or us as a group to do, in order to take ‘ownership’ for people that are new to me/us?”*