IN PROGRESS **SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS**

Text: Ephesians 1:9–23

Topic: God's Purpose, Restoration, Relationship with God

Big Idea of the Message: The purpose of God is to bring all things together under Christ.

Application Point: We can know God's purpose by knowing God.

- 1. What is one thing that stood out to you from this week's message?
- 2. What does this passage tell us about God?
- 3. How can someone discover God's purpose for his or her life?
- 4. What have you found to be challenging and/or rewarding in seeking to know God better?
- 5. Would anyone like to share about how a personal relationship with God through Jesus has affected your life?
- 6. How can I pray for you?

Text: Ephesians 2:1–10

Topic: Grace, Salvation, Restoration

Big Idea of the Message: God reconciled us to himself by making us alive when we were dead.

Application Point: We are the display of God's gracious handiwork.

- 1. What is one thing that stood out to you from this week's message?
- 2. Why do you think the contrast Paul uses between death and life is fitting here?
- 3. What does it mean for God to call you his handiwork in verse 10? Why is this important?
- 4. What would you tell someone who believes that they have to earn God's grace?
- 5. Is there anything going on in your life right now where you would like to see God's restorative work?
- 6. How can I pray for you?

Text: Ephesians 2:11–22

Topic: Unity, Fellowship, Reconciliation

Big Idea of the Message: God reconciles people to each other through Jesus. **Application Point:** When we are walking in fellowship with God, we can walk in fellowship with other believers in spite of our differences.

- 1. What is one thing that stood out to you from this week's message?
- 2. What are the metaphors Paul uses in this passage to describe believers in relationship with each other?
- 3. Why is unity among his children important to God?
- 4. For you, what does it look like to live in peace and unity with someone with whom you disagree?
- 5. Is there any lack of peace or fellowship between you and another believer right now? What do you think God wants you to do about it?
- 6. How can I pray for you?

Text: Ephesians 3:1–13 Topic: Calling, Purpose of the Church, Suffering Big Idea of the Message: God reveals the mystery of his grace through the church. Application Point: We are called to make God's glorious riches known to others, even at great personal cost.

- 1. What is one thing that stood out to you from this week's message?
- 2. What does this passage tell us about God's view of history?
- 3. Why do you think God chose to use people as a vital tool in his redemptive work? What flaws or weaknesses could be involved in this plan?
- 4. How does it affect you knowing that you are in front of a heavenly audience? Why does it matter?
- 5. How are you displaying God's grace to the people in your life? Is there anything you would like to work on to be more effective?
- 6. How can I pray for you?

Text: Ephesians 4:1–16

Topic: Maturity, Fruit of the Spirit, Spiritual Gifts

Big Idea of the Message: God calls us to grow so that we can use our gifts for his glory.

Application Point: Our maturity is measured not by our gifts but by how we love God and love others.

- 1. What is one thing that stood out to you from this week's message?
- 2. What does this passage tell us about us?
- 3. What does spiritual growth look like? How can we know if we are growing in Christ or not?
- 4. What is one thing that you find most challenging in your maturing walk with Christ?
- 5. What is one thing that you find helps you grow the most consistently?
- 6. How can I pray for you?

Text: Ephesians 4:17–5:2

Topic: Attitude, Transformation, Forgiveness, Speech

Big Idea of the Message: God gives us access to a new attitude and a new way of life. **Application Point:** We must guard our thoughts and words because they determine our heart's attitude and, therefore, our choices.

- 1. What is one thing that stood out to you from this week's message?
- 2. How does this passage connect our hearts with our mouths?
- 3. Why do you think God repeats so often the importance of our words?
- 4. How does forgiveness toward others affect our ability to be like Christ? What does forgiveness look like to you?
- 5. What is one thing you can do differently with your speech to better honor God and benefit those who hear?
- 6. How can I pray for you?

Text: Ephesians 5:3–20 Topic: Evangelism, Sanctification, Purity Big Idea of the Message: God calls us to shine as light in the darkness. Application Point: We need to live wisely, rejecting what displeases the Lord and embracing what pleases him.

- 1. What is one thing that stood out to you from this week's message?
- 2. What does this passage tell us about idolatry? What is idolatry?
- 3. How can someone know what God likes and doesn't like?
- 4. Why do you think it's important for Christians to shine as lights in the darkness, that is, to live differently than non-Christians?
- 5. Is there any area of your life where you blend in with non-believers in your speech, thoughts, actions, even entertainment choices? What do you think God prefers?
- 6. How can I pray for you?

Week 8 Text: Ephesians 5:21–6:9 Topic: Relationships, Honor, Submission Big Idea of the Message: God invades our daily lives and relationships. Application Point: When we honor one another, we honor God.

- 1. What is one thing that stood out to you from this week's message?
- 2. What does this passage tell us about God?
- 3. Why do you think our relationships matter to God?
- 4. What does it look like to lay down your life for another the way Christ did for you?
- 5. What is one way you can show honor to your family members this week?
- 6. How can I pray for you?

Text: Ephesians 6:10–24

Topic: Spiritual Warfare, Faith, Prayer

Big Idea of the Message: God strengthens us to participate in his plan in the face of resistance.

Application Point: Our standing and our praying makes a difference.

- 1. What is one thing that stood out to you from this week's message?
- 2. What is spiritual warfare?
- 3. Why is it important to recognize the tools God has given us?
- 4. Why do you think there is only one offensive weapon mentioned here? How do you utilize God's Word as your tool?
- 5. Have you ever experienced effectual prayer? What happened?
- 6. How can I pray for you?