Small Group Discussion Guide

PATHWAY

We Are Raised

SERIES BIG IDEA
Working through the book of Ephesians, we will discover where we are, and our next step on the PATHWAY with Jesus.

MESSAGE BIG IDEA
We are raised from death to life because of Jesus.

OPENING QUESTIONS

1. Share something you have created that you are proud of. (ie: an instagram post, a home project, a school assignment, a story you wrote, a project at work, etc.)

PATHWAY FROM DEATH TO LIFE
Most of the time we think about our journey from life to death. We are born, we live our life and then we die. But in Ephesians 2, Paul turns our normal way of thinking about things around and writes about our journey from death to life.

2. Since we are talking about life and death, what do you hope the people closest to you will say about you after you die?

Pull up PATHWAY on your phones (pathway.restorecc.org) and find the “about” tab. Have someone read over the statements in Explore, another person read the statements in Follow and another person read over the statements in Influence.

3. Which part of PATHWAY (Explore, Follow or Influence) do you resonate with the most at this season of your journey?

BIBLE DISCUSSION
Read Ephesians 2:1-10

4. What stands out to you in this passage of scripture?

This passage of Ephesians shares three truths that sum up the gospel in a powerful way.

- You were dead
- But God is his love and mercy
- Raised us up with Christ

5. What do you think Paul means when he says “you were dead in your transgressions and sin”? What examples of spiritual deadness do you see in our culture today?

6. Re-read vs. 4 and 5. When did the idea of God’s love and mercy first become real to you? If it is not real to you yet, what questions do you have about God’s love and mercy?

7. When we choose Jesus, we choose to be raised from spiritual death to being “alive in Christ.” Who do you know that lives a life “alive in Christ”? What does that look like in a real and tangible way?
BAPTISM – A DEMONSTRATION OF DEATH TO LIFE
Paul writes this in the book of Romans about our death to life journey with Jesus.

Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. Romans 6:3-4

Baptism is a demonstration of us identifying with Christ’s death, burial and resurrection. When we say “yes” to Jesus, we can celebrate that through baptism.

8. If you have been baptized, share you story. If not, what are your thoughts about baptism and how does it relate to you in this season of your journey?

PATHWAY TO PURPOSE
For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10

9. God raised us from death to life and then gives us a purpose. If you have some clarity of purpose in this season of your journey, share this with the group.

MICRO GROUP
Get into smaller micro-groups of 3 or 4 for the remainder of this discussion guide. Micro groups should be same sex – all men or all women. Keep these same micro groups throughout this series.

10. What is God saying to you as you read Ephesians? Is there anything God is asking you to do?

H2O – Habits to Outcome
Spiritual habits (Bible engagement, prayer, accountability, journaling, and serving) lead to the outcomes of Character Transformation* and Calling Activation*. In this series we will focus on the habit of Bible engagement as we read through the Book of Ephesians together.

This week we will:
Read Ephesians 2 and journal what God is saying to us

Check out PATHWAY (pathway.restorecc.org). Choose one next step you are wanting to take in your journey with Jesus.

Close your micro group by praying for each other.

*Character Transformation means that your character is demonstrating the fruits of the Spirit as you become more like Jesus. (Galatians 5:22-23)
*Calling Activation means that you are living out your primary calling as a disciple maker. (Matthew 28:19-20)