

Message Discussion Guide

Date: May 20-21, 2023

Title: Open Mic- Week Two

Connect with Each Other:

Icebreakers

You can use these questions to break the ice in conversations as you start your group.

- Name two of your favorite hobbies
- What show did you binge watch embarrassingly fast?

Pray Together

- God, we are so thankful for who you are. We submit our lives and our situations to you, and take joy in the process of you transforming and renovating our hearts, minds, and souls. We ask you to remind us each day that you are there with us in the “Nevertheless” times. We can do all things through Christ who gives us strength and who is alive in us as we live transformed by you.

Connect with God:

Message Summary

You may want to ask a group member to recap the message so everyone is ready to discuss the message, especially if some people missed gathering that weekend. If people are having a hard time remembering, you can use this summary to help give a recap.

- **Sticky statement:** There is a promise in the process
- **Message Summary:** Pastor Dave reminds us that in our relationship with Jesus we have died to our old lives, and yet we live, anew with Christ who strengthens and transforms us. It doesn't matter what we're going through, as believers, Christ is in us. Jesus wants to meet us in the “nevertheless” circumstances. Ask God to help you sacrifice/commit to where he is calling.

Key Bible Verses

“For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.”

Ephesians 2:10 NLT

<https://bible.com/bible/116/eph.2.10.NLT>

“My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”

Galatians 2:20 NLT

<https://bible.com/bible/116/gal.2.20.NLT>

“For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.”

John 3:16 NLT

<https://bible.com/bible/116/jhn.3.16.NLT>

Discussion Questions

You can use these questions to help guide your discussion. Think through any helpful ways to preface the questions for your group (a quick recap of a part of the message, reading the associated verse together, etc.)

1. Have you ever taken on a physical renovation project? How did it go? Did it take longer than you expected? Were there any surprises along the way? Was it worth it?
2. In what way(s) has your relationship with Jesus begun a renovation in you? Is that renovation still in process? Is it taking longer than you expected?
3. What do you feel is the “value of living a life of restraint?”
4. Pastor Dave reminds us that we should all have a “Nevertheless I live” moment in our lives. What is yours? How has living transformed by Christ despite your circumstances changed you?
5. Have you ever faced a situation that you felt was too hard for you to handle and you wanted to give up? Did you persevere? Was it worth it?