

**COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE
FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 17, 2021**

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

MY STORY

1. This past week we learned that activity and identity are separate yet often times we identify ourselves by what we *do* versus who we *are*. When/where/how do you feel like you become a "performer" rather than living in reality?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. For many people, a new start is hard to imagine. But what does Psalm 103:10-12 say about God's capacity to forgive and begin again?

Psalm 103:10-12 New Living Translation

*10 He does not punish us for all our sins;
he does not deal harshly with us, as we deserve.
11 For his unfailing love toward those who fear him
is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth.
12 He has removed our sins as far from us
as the east is from the west.*

2. When we forget that we are not slaves to sin, sin seems normal. According to 2 Corinthians 5:17-21, what are some of the differences between pre-Jesus living and post-Jesus living, regardless of our ongoing battle with sin?

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 New Living Translation

17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! 18 And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. 19 For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. 20 So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" 21 For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

3. Satan, the deceiver, has no other job than to make us believe lies about ourselves. His main aim is to shame us and to tempt us to sin. The best way to counter his attacks is by repeating truth from God's Word. How are you filling your mind with what is true so that you recognize Satan's lies?

TAKING IT HOME

1. Jesus always transforms lives of his followers. What changes has He made in your life? What new things are you hoping still to come?
2. This past week, we learned two things from the verse below; Jesus gives us a new name and he forgives us. What sin from this past week are you most thankful He has forgiven?

*Seeing their faith, Jesus told the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven."
Mark 2:5*

Take heart, the truth you believe is greater than the lies Satan throws at you. John 8:36 says, "So if the Son sets you free, you are free indeed." You are forgiven. You are free indeed.

PRAYER REQUESTS

How can this group remember you in prayer this week?

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