

Merge Midweek - Some Good News

Discussion Questions

- What top 5 relationships you are most important in your life right now? What ones are similar or not so similar to everyone in your group?
- If the 6 truths we shared about our relationship with God were trail markers, where are you maybe standing? Or where between/beyond? (We're all Broken, Sin brings death, God brings life, God is a rescuer, Rescue is a gift, I've accepted the Gift)



- Have you seen evidence of these truths in everyday life anywhere? (I.e. the brokenness of the world, a life God has changed, a person who has repented/been strengthened, etc)
- What do you think is holding YOU back from the next step? Try and give it at least one word. (I.e. FEAR, UNDERSTANDING, SHAME, etc)
- *If you have time, ask your leader what their journey looked like, why it clicked for them, what held them back and what has changed? Any of those.*

Wednesday, January 25, 2023

Merge Midweek - Some Good News.

A refresher/reminder of the Good News

- Scriptures we'll point to:
 - Romans 3:23
 - ²³ "...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God..."
 - We're all BROKEN
 - Romans 6:23
 - ²³ "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in ^[a] Christ Jesus our Lord."
 - Sin brings DEATH
 - We are separated from God in relationship.
 - God brings ETERNAL LIFE
 - God desires to have a full, living and forever relationship with us.
 - Romans 5:8
 - ⁸ "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
 - God RESCUES us.
 - ILLUSTRATION: Rescue swimmer Cost Guard - Grab the float!"
 - Ephesians 2:8-9
 - ⁸ "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast."
 - It is a GIFT. We can't work for it, earn it, deserve it. But we can accept it.

- How do I accept it? There is a journey.
 - BELIEVE & CONFESS (Romans 10:9-10)
 - ⁹ If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.
 - REPENT
 - Acts 2:38 - Repentance is a TURNING around. Going the other way. Changing sides.
 - BAPTISM
 - An active and concrete opportunity God gives us to respond to him. Acting out his death & resurrection. A physical thing. A clothing (Galatians 3:26-27)
 - ²⁶ So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, ²⁷ for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.
 - Don’t get stuck on whether this is a necessity or not. Ask a better question, a question that will always serve you well in your relationship with God. What do you desire of me, lover of my soul?
 - LIVE IN THE STRENGTH (THE SPIRIT, DISCIPLINES, FAMILY OF GOD)
 - Colossians 2:6-7 ⁶ So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

Small Groups!

For students in groups hand out the front/back printed slip....

