



WELCOME: Introduce any new guests

ANNOUNCEMENT (perhaps a good time to remind the group)

ENCOUNTER GOD

Praise and Thanksgiving: Who has something to praise God for this week?

Icebreaker: *If you could go back to high school today, what would you want to "letter" in? What extra-curricular would you want to do (band, what sport, choir, debate, drama, etc.) -- OR -- If you could go back to college, which MAJOR would you choose now?*

EQUIP WITH TRUTH - THIS I BELIEVE... GOD WANTS US

Read Colossians 1:12-14, 19-20

This text is filled with at least 6 big revelations that communicate GOD the Father really does want us for His own.

1. **He enable/qualified us to be His. (v.12) - what was it that DISqualified us or keeps us from being UNable to be with God?**
Romans 5:12 / Romans 3:23 / Ephesians 2:1-3 / Ephesians 2:12
2. **He enabled us to SHARE in a great inheritance (v.12) - How often do you think of the inheritance that God promises us? Read 1 Peter 1:4 - compare this inheritance to the inheritance that Bill Gates could leave for you.**
3. **He has rescued us from the DOMAIN of darkness (v.13)**
"Domain" means power, stronghold, jurisdiction, or authority. **What are some "domains" of darkness that we needed rescue from?**
4. **And transferred us to HIS kingdom of light (v.13)**
In order to fully appreciate this, you might need to re-read v.14-19. **As a group, discuss what it means to be "transferred" to the kingdom of the King of all creation.**
5. **He redeemed and forgave us through the cross (v.14, 20)**
What "label" do you carry over yourself? The label GOD has given you is the label REDEEMED. Talk about this with the group.

One of the clearest signs or evidences of God the Father wanting us is that He willingly gifted His own Son to die for us so that we can be redeemed and forgiven. This IS the good news of the gospel. Discuss this as a group. Perhaps ask: "Why do you think we move past this beautiful news so quickly?" or "why don't we really feel this more deeply throughout the entire calendar, not just on Easter?"

What do I need to change in order to daily, regularly express my gratitude to what God did to save me from the domain of darkness, transfer me to light and redeem and forgive me?

Prayer

ENGAGE OTHERS

[A good helpful idea would be to ask someone within the group to own this task. Delegate some responsibility is very important. Ask someone before next week if they might consider leading the prayer time for the next week] --- *Are you doing this?*

Pray for Here (needs in the group, around our oikos)

Pray for There

Remember to pray for our missionaries: Rocha family and Tori Puckett - both in Asia
Remember this week to pray for United States of America and The Journey Church, Killeen

VISION

(Please continue to do this... as it keeps them involved in engaging others)

Challenge your group to invite others to next week's group meeting and to Sunday morning worship.