



Our Identity and Why We Help People Trust and Follow Jesus Group Discussion Guide

1. Share a 30-60 second update on your week? And introduce any newcomers.
2. Re-read Ephesians 2:1-10.
3. As you were listening to the sermon, what did you sense God saying to you? Why?
4. Kanye West has been in the news lately. We do NOT want to take time to share our opinions about the authenticity of his faith (there is a time for that discussion, but not today). But let's discuss his analysis of why people do not believe in Jesus, especially in light of Ephesians 2:1-3:

During James Corden's, *The Late Late Show*, Kanye opened described his spiritual awakening after a hospitalization in 2016.

"I'd say when you go to sleep, would you agree that you are asleep when you're asleep? And when you wake up, would you agree that you're awake when you're awake? Would you agree that those are two different states? People who don't believe are walking dead. They are asleep and this is the awakening."

What do you think of Kanye's analysis? How does it apply to the non-believers around you?

5. Is the reality of the follow two passages hard or easy for you to grasp? Explain why or why not?

Ephesians 2:3 - Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

John 3:36 - *whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on them.*

6. What value do you practically place on what you have received by grace through faith? (Ephesians 2:8-9). Explain how it impacts you daily?
7. What is your reaction to the following statement?

We have been blessed beyond measure - How could we not want to help other people to get in on these blessings with us?

8. What is your reaction to this second statement?

We want to join together with others, so that we can help each other to grow up and mature – as faithful disciples – and together fully express our faith and gratitude for what we have received in good works.

9. How can these truths provide a deeper motivation for our mission than just the simple command of Jesus to make disciples?