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**The beginning place is the Fear of the Lord.**

Proverbs 1:7 | Proverbs 9:10

**Fear:** Understanding who God is.

**Wisdom:** Truth applied to life.

**Change breaks the tension of the status quo.**

**Fear of change can disguise itself as apathy, comfort, helplessness.** Luke 10:31-32 | James 5:5

**Wisdom:** see it, confront it, transform it.

**New mindset:**

Romans 12:1-2 | Philippians 3:12-14

**Destination vs growth.**

**Release and receive.**

**Work from the inside out.**

(Inward changes lead to outward changes.)

2 Corinthians 5:17

*Many of our Life Groups use this insert as a discussion guide throughout the week. We encourage you to take that next step in your journey with Jesus & His church by joining one today! [www.seekreallife.com/groups](http://www.seekreallife.com/groups)*

**Share your story**

What insight, question, or resolution did you discover from our time of worship together on Sunday?

Looking back over this year, what's the biggest change you've had to face? Were you afraid? Why or why not?

What has helped you the most when you recognize a change that needs to take place in your life?

**Connect to God's Story**

**Read Ephesians 5:1-2.**

*Following the example of Christ can lead to some uncomfortable changes. What changes have you experienced following Him?*

What does self-sacrificial look like? Is your life filled with love? If not, do you desire God to change this in you?

What are some practical acts of love you can express toward the people you see every day? How might that change their world and yours?

**Read Colossians 3:12-15.**

What do you think would happen if we lived this passage out into our community?

*This paragraph describes what grace in action looks like. In what way is God desiring to pour out His grace through you? (at home? at work? at school? etc.)*

**Read Matthew 28:18-20.**

*When you decide to follow Jesus, your life will change and it can be scary. Where does Jesus say He is in all of this?*

What comfort do you find in Jesus' final words in Matthew that can help you FEAR{LESS}?

*Take a moment to talk with God about areas where you need to grow. Confess any sin to Him and thank Him for His forgiveness and for the power that is available from Him to change.*

**For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity,  
but of power, love, and self-discipline.**

**- 2 Timothy 1:7 (NLT)**

**Together in prayer.**

As a church, let us come together in prayer.

- ◆ Pray for a positive response from our community for all our summer impact events.
- ◆ Pray for opportunity in your life to speak life, pray for courage and wisdom to make the most of every opportunity.
- ◆ Pray for our city! For God to reveal Himself in transforming ways.
- ◆ Pray for the city planning meeting-approval of proposed renovations of our new building.
- ◆ Pray for the one. May God draw each person into a living relationship with Himself.
- ◆ Pray for my next step in reaching the one I am praying for.
- ◆ Pray for boldness to reach our community with the love of Jesus.

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain in to joy.

And may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.

— A Franciscan Blessing