

Walking in Your Purpose Small Group Guide

Warm-up Question: (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part all together, depending upon the nature of your group.)

1. What is the most recent major change you have experienced in your life? How did it impact you?
2. Do you have trouble deciding what to wear every day? Explain.

Read the following passages: Ephesians 4:1-16.

In this section of his letter to the Ephesians, Paul begins to describe what it looks like “to live a life worthy of the calling you have received” (Ephesians 4:1). So how do we walk in the purpose God has for us? Several big ideas emerge in this passage: 1) We need to embrace hope; 2) we need to remember that *who we are* is more important than *where we are*; 3) we need to find our people; and 4) we need to play our part.

Questions for Discussion (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. Consider the following quote from Donald Miller. Do you agree that taking action is critical to experiencing meaning? How does this connect with Jesus’s instruction to “Follow me”? What happens when we don’t take action?

*How many people sit in the church pews hearing lectures about God only to return home and feel restless? And why? Perhaps it is because we do not experience meaning by studying meaning. Rather, we experience meaning by taking action. Even Jesus said **follow Me** rather than **figure Me out**. What if the experience of meaning requires action?*

Donald Miller, *Hero on a Mission*

2. Read Ephesians 1:18-19a. What are some ways we can ensure that our eternal hope of the glory of God practically impacts our lives in the present? Do you live with the confident hope that God will reward your faith and obedience? Explain.
3. How does Jesus’s life exemplify the statement “who you are is more important than where you are?”
4. Generally speaking, would you say that you are fully engaged where you are right now, or are you often thinking about being somewhere else or doing something else? Explain. How can we consider opportunities for change without constantly being distracted from living in the present?
5. Read Ephesians 4:2. Do the attributes described in this verse strike you as weak or boring? Why or why not? Why are these characteristics important for living “a life

worthy of the calling you have received”?

6. Do you regularly experience vulnerable connection with others? Explain.
7. Strongman competitor Mitchell Hooper remarked, “When I train other people, I’m brilliant. When I train myself, I’m an idiot.” How does this observation connect with Paul’s statements about the growth of the body? Are you deliberately looking to other relationships to help you grow? Explain.
8. Jesus told his disciples, “Freely you have received; freely give” (Matthew 10:8). What does it look like to live a life of giving and receiving? Why are both important?
9. Do you have a sense of what your spiritual gifts are? Explain. Are there any spiritual gifts you would like to grow in?

Pray