



Leader's Guide

You Are a New Creation

2 Corinthians 5:17 | Pastor Nick Engle | July 19, 2026

Session Overview

In this week's sermon, we talked about the lies we believe about ourselves and even about others. We then replaced those lies with promises of who God says we are. When we are in Christ, we are made into a new creation. Sure, we are still imperfect, but that comes with being human. The important thing we talked about in the sermon is this: we are not the lies that we tell about ourselves but a new and beautiful creation made by our Father.

Session Flow (60-75 minutes)

Welcome and Icebreaker (10 minutes)

Are you a person who immediately assumes the worst possible scenario? When was the last time you did this and what was the situation?

Purpose: To start reflecting on how we may jump to the worst conclusion when thinking about others, situations we're in, and ourselves. We want to shift focusing on the lies the enemy plants in our minds and think about the truths and promises of God.

Scripture Reading

Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-19 aloud together.

When answering question the final question, read these verses: 1 Peter 2:9, Ephesians 2:10, John 1:11-13, Romans 15:7, Galatians 4:7, and Exodus 19:5

Leader Coaching Sidebar

- Work towards creating a community out of your group to be there for one another. We all have lies we tell about ourselves but as a group, we can share God's truth.
- Have a space where anyone can be open about something they're going through. We will be talking about how God is trying to change us which can be a difficult topic to discuss.
- Remind the group that we all tell lies about ourselves. There is comfort in knowing you're not the only one thinking poorly about themselves.

Discussion (40-50 minutes)

- 1. Do you jump to conclusions? What are typically some of the factors or situations that lead to worst-case-scenario thinking?**

Leader Note: This could help the group become aware of some of the reasons they may jump to a lie instead of the truth.

- 2. In reading 2 Corinthians 5:16-19, what stood out to you? Was there anything in the passage that shifted your view? Read the passage again if needed.**

Leader Note: This will connect with the next question. Have the group focus on a particular word or phrase that stood out and talk about it among the group.

- 3. What does it mean to regard others and Christ in a “worldly point of view”? How do we shift from viewing the world through brokenness?**

Leader Note: Reflect on how we may not only misjudge ourselves, but how we may misjudge others and possibly even Christ.

- 4. How was reconciliation defined in the sermon and how did that affect your personal definition of reconciliation?**

Leader Note: People may connect this with an apology or when people make amends. Think about how God is wanting to make amends with the earth and His creation.

- 5. What did you think or feel after hearing in the sermon that we are made into a new creation when we are in Christ?**

Leader Note: Think about regeneration and baptism. When we are baptized, we are not only washed with water but in the Spirit, making us new.

- 6. What was something that was a part of your “old selves” that is now dead and made new?**

Leader Note: Reflect on who you were as a Christian. God may have either completely changed that or redeemed a quality for His purposes.

- 7. When we become a Christian, our lives are not necessarily made easier, but they are made better. How do you relate to that statement?**

Leader Note: Think about the previous weeks' lessons. We are being refined and strengthened for God's purposes. It is not easy, but we become closer to God in the end.

- 8. How does becoming a new creation - a completely new creature - give you hope in your life going forward?**

Leader Note: This will give the group time to reflect on their lives and see how they have not just been made into a new version of themselves but a completely new creature.

- 9. There are ways we have changed, but we are still being changed as well. What is something you think the Lord is trying to change in you now?**

Leader Note: Encourage the group to not just hear but listen to one another. These are things that you can all be praying for each other.

- 10. How can we start to view ourselves and others not through a human view, but through the view in which God sees us?**

Leader Note: Think about how God does not see us through earthly standards, but through heavenly standards.

Application and Prayer (10-15 minutes)

God gives us promises in scripture; he promises us who we are. He gives us statements of identity. Go around the room and read these scriptures:

1 Peter 2:9

Romans 15:7

Ephesians 2:10

Galatians 4:7

John 1:11-13

Exodus 19:5

Which verse did you need to hear? Write this verse down somewhere you can see it as a daily reminder of who God says you are.

Closing Prayer Suggestion

God even when we can't see it, you see us as your beloved creation. You are constantly running towards us, meeting us where we are at, and drawing us into reconciliation. We thank you for not only forgiving us of our sins, but making us into something completely new. We ask that you continue to make us better, even though it's not always easy. Finally, we thank you for each other and how you have individually made us. We are all different with a unique purpose, yet you are using us together to grow your kingdom. We ask you to remove the lies of the enemy from our minds and fill us with your truths about us. We lift these things up in your name, amen.