### THE WEEKLY

# **New Life Small Group Guide**

For groups meeting

July 28 - Aug 3, 2019

Your Life is Not Your Own

#### **WELCOME** (15 minutes)

**Ice Breaker:** Andrew talked about a close-call or wakeup-call moment he had where he realized that God was calling him to Let Go and Let God take over. Have you had a similar experience? What was the experience and what did you learn from it?

# WORSHIP (10 minutes).

Sing #13 "What Mercy Did for Me" from the 2019 Small Groups Worship CD

# WIN (15 minutes)

- PRAY for unsaved people you as a group are reaching out to!
- PLAN something fun to do in the remaining days of summer to reach out to others!

# WORD (25 minutes)

- 1. Read 1 Cor 4:7. Paul asks 3 rhetorical questions and makes the case that ALL things come from God and EVERYTHING you have is a gift of God's grace. Is this a new thought to you? Are you living as if everything you have is because of the grace of God? What would your life look like if you truly believed that everything you have is because of grace?
- 2. Read Isaiah 43:6-7 and 1 Corinthians 10:31. We live in a "me, me, me" culture where self-glorification is a celebrated practice, but the Bible says that God created all things, including us, to glorify Him. So, glorifying God is our purpose in life. What does it look like to live a life that is all about God's glory and not about your glory? Who comes to mind when you think about this type of life?
- 3. Read 2 Cor 5: 17-18. The Bible says we're born a broken creation, but Jesus has made us a new creation! As a new creation, we can have a loose grip on the things of this world and have a firm grip on the things eternal. The Rich Young Ruler had a firm grip on his wealth while the disciples had a firm grip on eternity. Why do you think it is so hard to have a loose grip on the things of this world and have a firm grip on things eternal?
- 4. Many Christians think that the God-glorifying life is a boring, stale life of showing up to church, singing some songs, and trying to be a good person. But in reality, the God-glorifying life should be the most delightful life you could ever experience. C.S. Lewis says, "It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased." Is this a new thought to you, and if so, why? What do you find yourself aiming for to bring you joy worldly things or eternal things? Has that changed over time?
- 5. We were all challenged with the INMO (Is Not My Own) challenge, which was to ask the Spirit to identify one area of your life where you've been living as if it is your own and not because of grace. Maybe it's your job, your children, your money, your time, your story, or something else. What area of your life do you think you've been living with this belief and what steps can you take to Let Go and Let God?

#### WORKS (25 minutes)

Break into smaller groups of 2 or 3's of the same gender and pray for each other!