

The Gospel Changes Everything *Small Group Discussion*

EIGHT THE CHURCH CONTINUED

DISCUSSION OVERVIEW

The discussion will continue to focus on the role of us as the church as we navigate the tension we live in as exiles – in but not of the world, serving as ambassadors for Christ in our everyday lives.

SERIES OVERVIEW

Why have so many efforts to change our world proven ineffective, or even destructive? What does it mean to be a faithful presence of Christ in this world? This series will explore how the church can play a role in affecting positive change. The gospel, rather than politics or worldly power or wealth or social media or reclusiveness, changes everything.

LOOK *What do we see around us and in our lives?*

What are you always the most excited to come back to after vacation/time away from home?

BOOK *What does Scripture say about this?*

1 John 2: 15-16

¹⁵ Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. ¹⁶ For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.

Matthew 5: 14-16

¹⁴ You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

1 Peter 2: 9-12

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. ¹¹ Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

Which sections of the above scripture are encouraging for you to read? Challenging?

How do we love the world well – without being distracted by all these things of the world?

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Story of the Good News of Jesus.

Creation

God makes all things and they are good

Fall

God's people turn away from God, things are broken. Death and sin rule over all things.

Redemption

God, through Jesus' death and resurrection, rescues his people and defeats death and sin.

Restoration

Jesus returns to be with his people, end all brokenness, and make all things right.

THE GOSPEL *The Good News of Jesus*

We saw the actions of Jesus as set apart – how do we live as a “city on a hill”, engaged and visible as a light in our world?

Which desire of the world do you need more of Jesus' power to take control over this week?

Accountability/Reflection

Share together and pray for each other

TOOK *What will you take away from today's discussion?*
Possible questions to consider:

Consider what God is telling you stop, start, change, or continue.

What part of the gospel do you forget and need to remember this week?

Who do you know who needs to know the truth you discussed today?