



SMALL GROUP

TWO

INTRO

Has there ever been a moment in your life where everything changed? Maybe it was a big change. Like the birth of a sibling. Or moving to a new city. Maybe it was a small change. Maybe you switched positions on your team. Or maybe you got a new haircut. Regardless, these moments mark the end of the way something was and the beginning of the way things are from then on.

Change can sometimes be scary. But it can also be awesome.

When it comes to God's plan for humankind, there was always a big change in the works. The plan started with God's love for us. And because He loved us so much, He planned on fighting for us. He planned on making a way for us to know a new life of purpose and meaning and . . . life.

This new change made it possible for you to experience a truth about your life that you could never have imagined otherwise.

In Small Group 2, you'll discover what this change is and how, once you experience it, you'll never be the same again.

THE MOMENT IT ALL CHANGED

Read the following scenarios. Then see who can be the most creative in making up the way the story ends.



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GETTING
STARTED

SCENARIO #1

You're at the library studying when you see the person you have a huge crush on. They come over to talk to you. Everything changes when they suddenly open their mouth and you notice they have a huge piece of broccoli in their teeth. What happens next?

SCENARIO #2

You post a picture on Instagram of yourself looking your best. Your friends all seem to love it. But everything changes when your mom leaves a comment telling you she's going by the store and asks if you need her to pick you up some more acne cream. What happens next?

SCENARIO #3

You're giving a speech in front of your Social Studies class and you're rocking it, until you notice a few people laughing. Everything changes when you realize your zipper is undone! What happens next?

SCENARIO #4

You're walking through the lunch room carrying a huge tray full of food. Everything changes when you turn a corner and dump your entire tray on the most popular girl in school. What happens next?

SCENARIO #5

You're browsing Instagram checking out what's going on with the world. Everything changes when you see your sibling has uploaded the video (you thought he/she had already deleted) of you singing your favorite song in your bathrobe. What happens next?

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DIGGING IN

HOW IT ALL CHANGED

Work with your group to discuss how Jesus changed everything.

GOD ← → PEOPLE

- What is sin?

Answers will vary. Essentially sin is missing the mark. It's falling short of the standard of God's Word and His ways. It is rebellion. It is disobedience. And so on.

- What are the consequences of sin?

Help students see that sin can negatively impact our daily lives. It also leads to spiritual death. But as much as anything, sin truly does create separation between God and us.

- Why are there consequences?

God is perfect in all His ways. Our sin prohibits us from being able to be in relationship with a perfectly holy God. He is also perfectly just and punishes sin perfectly. God is the life-giver. When we sin, we're in rebellion to the life-giver. God is perfectly within His rights to require death for punishment of sin.

three words. How would you define the following words?

REDEEM

To atone or make amends for; specifically, to save from sin.

FORGIVE

To stop feeling anger or animosity toward someone; to cancel a debt.

UNITE

To bring together for a common purpose; to come together for a common goal.

READ EPHESIANS 1:7-10.

"7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight 9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth."

- Look at verse 7. You just defined the word "redeem." Why did we need redeeming?

Our sin had condemned us. Our sin earned for us death and separation from God.

- What did Jesus redeem us from?

The consequences of sin. We can be free from sin's power over us by trusting in Jesus for our salvation.

- How did He do it?

Jesus served as a sacrifice in our place by dying on the cross (that's what Paul means when he said "through his blood"). His life paid the penalty our sin deserved.

- Verses 8-10 tell us that this was God's plan all along. What does verse 10 tell us is the purpose of God's plan to redeem us through Jesus' sacrifice?

Part of the purpose for Jesus' death on the cross was to remove the penalty of sin in order that we might all be united with God, and with other Christ-followers.

NOW, READ GALATIANS 4:4-7.

"4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. 6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God."

- Verse 5 tells us of another purpose of God's plan to redeem us. What is it?

To adopt us as sons. For God's sons and daughters, being adopted into God's family is about our place as His beloved children. See the lesson plan for a more in-depth answer.

- What does this say about God's great love for you?

Answers will vary.

- How does the fact that you can be adopted as a child of God change the way you see Jesus, and your faith in general?

Answers will vary.

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WRAPPING UP

ACCEPTING THE CHANGE

What is keeping you from embracing the change that Jesus makes possible?

READ ROMANS 10:9-13

“9 If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. 11 For the Scripture says, ‘Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.’ 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. 13 For ‘everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’”

- If you have been adopted by God into His family, what do you have to say to Him in response?

Answers will vary, here and following.

- If you have yet to be adopted into God’s family, and still aren’t ready to accept the radical change He offers, what is keeping you from accepting the redemption Jesus has purchased for you?
- If you have never accepted the redemption offered through faith in Christ, and are wanting to be adopted into God’s family, express this desire to God now. Then, let an adult in your group know of your decision.



“IF YOU CONFESS WITH
YOUR MOUTH THAT JESUS
IS LORD AND BELIEVE IN
YOUR HEART THAT GOD
RAISED HIM FROM THE
DEAD, YOU WILL BE SAVED.
FOR WITH THE HEART ONE
BELIEVES AND IS JUSTIFIED,
AND WITH THE MOUTH ONE
CONFESSES AND IS SAVED.”

ROMANS
10:9-10