

**Life Group Study Guide: Loved what you heard on Sunday? Want to go deeper? The life group study guide will help you unpack what you heard on Sunday while diving deeper into God's word.**

1. *Have you ever restored something that was old and made it new? What was the process that you took? How long did it take? How did you feel once the project was complete?*
2. *Have you ever wanted a do over in life? Share a moment with your group where you wished you could hit the reset button and get a do over?*
3. *What insight, observation, or principle from this weekend's message did you find most helpful, insightful, or troubling? Explain.*

**There are moments in all of our lives where we wish there was a reset button. If we don't start out right we want to start over! Here is the Good news of the Gospel, if you start out going down the wrong way in life, you're not stuck with it when it comes to God; through Jesus you can actually have a fresh new start. Having faith in Jesus does not just make us better... He makes us new! The scriptures are filled with stories of people who were made new by God! Lets take a look at one of those stories.**

- *As a group spend some time reading through Luke 19:1-10. Write down any observations, questions, important insights you gain from reading the text.*

- *What do we learn about Zacchaeus from our text? What kind of reputation might a chief tax collector have developed in Jericho?*
- *What do you see in Zacchaeus' initial meeting with Jesus? What do you think Zacchaeus was expecting from Jesus? What was the reaction of the crowd as they see the relationship between Zacchaeus & Jesus develop?*
- *Jesus is a master at building relationships and communicating with people. What does Jesus do to build a friendship with Zacchaeus?*
- *What seems to be going on inside Zacchaeus by the end of this encounter (verses 8-10)? How is he transformed by meeting Jesus? What might be some of the far-reaching effects of this transformation on both Zacchaeus and the other people in his community?*

**Digging Deeper**

- *How have you experienced the seeking or saving power of Jesus in your life (maybe even in the past week)? What are some ways Jesus has changed you? How can you be a witness to Jesus' transforming power in your life?*
- *This past Sunday we discovered 4 marks of a life made new in Christ. Which ones do you see Jesus developing in your life, which ones do you struggle with?*

# NEW

“MARKS OF A NEW LIFE”

- PART 3 -

- January 22, 2017 -



Religious behavior may make me nice, but only Jesus can make me new.

**Feeling** better about ourselves does not change us. We are changed by **faith** in Jesus.

**2 Corinthians 5:16-17(NLT)**...*At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now!* <sup>17</sup> *This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!*

New life is found when I live by **design** and not by **default**.

## 4 MARKS OF A NEW LIFE IN CHRIST:

**2 Corinthians 5:11 (NLT)** *Because we understand our fearful responsibility to the Lord, we work hard to persuade others.*

A new life...

1. **Persuades** others.

**2 Corinthians 5:11b-13 (NLT)** *God knows we are sincere, and I hope you know this, too. <sup>12</sup> Are we commending ourselves to you again? No, we are giving you a reason to be proud of us,\* so you can answer those who brag about having a spectacular ministry rather than having a sincere heart. <sup>13</sup> If it seems we are crazy, it is to bring glory to God. And if we are in our right minds, it is for your benefit.*

2. Is **sincere**.

**2 Corinthians 5:12-19 (NLT)** *From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. <sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.*

3. Believes everyone is **worthy** of reconciliation.

**2 Corinthians 5:20-21 (NLT)** *Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

4. **Reflects** the kingdom of Jesus.