

WEEK 2: OUR LOVING FATHER

DISCOVER (PRE-WORK)

Before and during this activity, ask the Spirit of God to illuminate your heart and mind and bring conviction and clarity of His truth for your life. Take some time during your own personal study to read through the selected scriptures and walk through these four key questions:

1. Who is God (what does this passage tell me about God's character)?
2. What has God done (how do I see God's character in action here)?
3. Who am I (how does God's character and action shape how I see myself)?
4. What do I do (if I believe 1-3 above, how would I respond and relate to others)?

Scripture: Isaiah 64:8; James 1:16-18; Acts 17:26-29; John 8:38-44; 1 John 4:7-11

QUESTION: What did you DISCOVER during your study?

NURTURE

During your DNA group time, share what you discovered during your personal study detailed above.

Confess out loud to one another areas of personal struggle or unbelief that the Spirit revealed during your personal study.

In light of revealing himself as a good and loving Father who gives and sustains life, consider these questions:

1. When you hear the word Father or Dad, what comes to your mind?
2. Who or what is your view of Father most shaped by?
3. Where do you need a new picture of Father?

4. How does Jesus help us understand God the Father?

During this time, let each person share how or where they need to repent and believe the truth of God revealed to them in Jesus. You may need to guide each other to what is true of God and ourselves in light of what Jesus has done.

EXAMPLE: Someone in your DNA group is struggling with a deep sense of abandonment. You can remind them that Jesus was rejected for us so that he can both sympathize with us in our loss while he also promised he would never leave us or forsake us as well. To repent in this case, is to turn away from an earthly father who abandoned you as your picture of father, and turn toward Jesus as the better picture of Father. To believe means to trust by faith that Jesus provides the true picture of a present Father and can bring deep healing where you are broken.

QUESTION: How will you REPENT and BELIEVE the gospel?

ACT

In light of your time together, what steps will you take to act on your new discoveries and affirmed beliefs?

Consider these questions:

1. What relational wounds do you need to go to God the Father for healing with?
2. What relationships need to change, and how?
3. What words do you need to speak to someone?
4. What actions do you want to take?

QUESTION: What will you DO and who will you TELL about what God has done?