

GROUP GUIDE – FORMED BY THE GOSPEL

SESSION 1:1 | GOSPEL TRANSFORMATION

Key Scriptures

- John 3:3–8
- 2 Corinthians 5:17
- Acts 2:37–39
- Romans 5:1
- Romans 6:3–4
- Galatians 2:20
- Romans 12:2
- Matthew 17:1–2

Big Idea

The Gospel changes everything. God transforms us from the inside out through new birth (regeneration), repentance, faith, justification, union with Christ, and ongoing renewal (or sanctification) by the Spirit.

Ice Breakers (Choose one)

- What's something in your life that has changed in the last 5 years?
- If you could change one habit in your life what would it be?

Discussion Questions (As time allows)

1. John 3:3–8 — Jesus says we must be “born again.” The Spirit moves like the wind. How does this passage reshape your understanding of transformation compared to cultural ideas of self-improvement?
2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 — “The old has gone, the new is here.” What is the “old”, and what is the “new”? What things change in us and our life when we receive this new creation identity from Jesus?
3. Acts 2:37–38 — Conviction, repentance, and baptism. How does this passage challenge or affirm your understanding of repentance and the Spirit’s role in awakening the heart? Have you been baptized? If so, what did that moment mean for you? If not, what questions or hesitations do you have?
4. Romans 5:1 — “We have peace with God.” How does knowing you are justified by faith change how you relate to God on a daily basis?

5. Romans 6:3–4 — Buried and raised with Christ. What stands out to you about the imagery of being united with Jesus in His death and resurrection?
6. Galatians 2:20 — “Christ lives in me.” How does this verse reshape your sense of identity, purpose, or how you approach daily struggles?
7. Romans 12:2 — Renewing your mind. Where do you feel the strongest pull to conform to the world, and how does Scripture help re-form your thinking in those areas?
8. Matthew 17:1–2 — Jesus is transfigured. If the Spirit is forming Christ’s life visibly in you, where do you see glimpses of that transformation right now — big or small?

Application

Choose one simple practice this week that will help renew your mind with God’s truth. Pick something realistic and repeatable, a small step that gives space for the Spirit to form you and work in you.

Examples

- Read a short passage of Scripture each morning or night
- Replace one daily input (news/social media) with 5 minutes of prayer
- Memorize one line of Scripture from this session (like Romans 12:2 or Galatians 2:20)
- Pause once a day to prayerfully ask: “*Lord, how are You shaping me right now?*”

Key Takeaway

The Gospel doesn’t just save you, it shapes you continually throughout your life. Transformation begins with God and continues as the Spirit renews your mind and forms your life more into the likeness of Jesus.