

*Would you like to join a Small Group at Fellowship Bible Church?*

Most existing groups are open to new group members, and new groups begin on a regular basis. If you have friends in a small group, ask about joining their group. If you are new to Fellowship and are looking for a place to connect, please feel free to contact us and we can help you find the right group.

**Leader Tips:**

1. The sermon notes are designed to be used as a guide for discussion. Don't feel like you have to use every question. Some questions will take a while to work through, others will be over in a few seconds!
2. Don't teach the lesson. The sermon was taught on Sunday morning. Just ask questions and let everyone else talk.
3. Let other people ask questions. It's OK to go "off topic" for a while. Sometimes those conversations are more interesting anyway!
4. Have fun. Relationships, not curriculum, are the heartbeat of Small Groups. So have fun with the people in your group.

*Agenda for a Small Group Meeting*

**Gathering Time**

Take 15-20 minutes to welcome everyone, catch up, and share some food!

**Discussion Time**

Here's a suggested format:

1. **Ice Breaker** – Lighthearted ice-breaker question (15-20 min.)
2. **Discussion** - Discussion time, Bible study, application challenge (30-40 min.)
3. **Prayer** – Prayer requests and praying for one another (15-30 min.)
4. **Planning** – Keep the vision before the group, HEALTH planning, etc. (10 minutes)

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“A New Us-Salvation”

**Rooted**

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Ice-breaker!

What is your favorite action movie? What character in the movie would you like to most emulate?

Question: How do you handle (or think you would handle) a life-threatening situation?

- I'm usually ready and steady
- I default to shocked and shaky
- Depends on who's life was threatened
- I call the experts and then stand-by
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been rescued by someone? If you are comfortable, please share your story.

**To be saved is to be rescued.**

Question: Jesus engages in a variety of rescue missions, which mission do you find yourself most drawn to?

- Injustice
- Poverty
- Sickness
- Bondage of Sin
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Jesus rescues us by: Judging our sin. Judgment can be a good thing! John 16:7-11; 1 John 1:8; Romans 3:23**

**Read 1 John 1:8**

*8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

**I gotta admit it to quit it.**

Question: When it comes to admitting my faults and imperfections, I:

- Leave that up to my spouse
- I tell people my faults before they tell me
- Wait until someone buys me a book, then I talk
- Usually just try to beat it, before I have to admit it
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Jesus rescues us by: Forgiving our sin.**

### Read Colossian 1:11-14 (NLT)

*11 We also pray that you will be strengthened with all his glorious power so you will have all the endurance and patience you need. May you be filled with joy, 12 always thanking the Father. He has enabled you to share in the inheritance that belongs to his people, who live in the light. 13 For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, 14 who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins.*

Pause for a minute to consider:

Are you filled with Joy when you remember that God has picked you out and bought you [redemption]?

**There is no asterisk by our name.**

### Read Psalm 103:12; Isaiah 43:25; Hebrews 10:11-18

Have you ever put an “asterisk” on a fellow believer in Christ? “They say they love God, BUT...”

- Not usually, I’ve had so many asterisks removed from my own name; I’m still a bit surprised.
- Maybe, I haven’t thought of it that way before
- I’m a recovering Asterick-a-holic
- Yes. I have to admit that I have an asterisk on someone right now.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Jesus rescues us by: Living in us.**

### Read Romans 5:6-11

*6 When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. 7 Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. 8 But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. 9 And since we have been made right in God’s sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God’s condemnation. 10 For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. 11 So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.*

Question: What does it mean to you to be a “friend of God”.

**We become righteous. 1 Corinthians 1:30**

**We’re cool with God. Colossians 1:20-21**

**Phillip put it this way, “Because of our sin, the relationship between God and us is sour. God, as Judge, declared and made us righteous in Christ. He didn’t stop there. This judge not only acquits us, he invites us over for dinner after the trial.”**

Question: If you believe that Jesus took our sin and gave us in return the gift of God—in what way/s can we imitate Christ to others?

- Yikes, I’m not comfortable imitating Christ at all—to much pressure.
- We try to tolerate people and maybe smile so they don’t know they bug us.
- Not always sure, but I know it’s gotta start with love
- We accept people where they are at and invite them to share in our friendship with God.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**“Ok, I want to be rescued. What do I do?”**

### Read Acts 16:25-31

Question: What did the Jailer *do* to be “rescued/saved”? List some ways in which he responded when he came to know God?

**It’s [Salvation] a matter of “Done” or “Do.”**

*Christianity is a relationship with the one who said,  
“It is done.”*

Question: Why do you think other religions lean toward “Do”? How can we remind each other that salvation for us is “Done”?

### Prayer:

Take time as a group for some focused prayer.

### Some focus points for prayer:

- Ask God to remind you of the greatness of His salvation and the Joy of being rescued.
- Pray for His Spirit to lead you as you interact with others whom you’ve placed an asterisk upon. Ask for His ability to handle those situations with grace and peace.
- Give thanks for everything we have been given through Christ—most significantly a friendship with our Creator.

### Work It Out!

One thing I’ll do differently because of this sermon:

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