

We are **MISSIONARIES**

DISCUSSION GUIDE

MC Group Discussion Questions

This week, we wrapped up our Identities series by talking about what it means to have a Missionary identity. There are a lot of ways that our culture assigns identity to a person, but Christians believe that identity is derived from the character and action of God. So, God the Holy Spirit was sent by the Father and the Son to bear witness to the truth about God. Because we are made by God and re-made by him in salvation, we understand our identity in light of his character and action. This means that as we too are sent to bear witness to the truth about God. This action on our part is not a separate activity we are called to but the rather, the natural result of us living out of our missionary identity.

1. Justin started the sermon by asking the question, “why don’t Christians share their faith more openly?” What do you think are some reasons that you are hesitant to share your faith? Do you think there is a place in our modern society for evangelism? What are some considerations that Christians should keep in mind when sharing their faith? How would you respond to an atheist or someone of another faith who shared their faith with you?
2. Justin’s definition of evangelism was “Being a human in public and then explaining why.” He began by saying that we are hard wired to bear witness to God because we are made in his image. When we live the way we were designed to live, we reflect God’s character and love for creation. What keeps us from being human? How do we grow in our ability to be human? How can your MC help you grow into the human God made you to be? For those who aren’t Christians, how do you know what it means to be fully human?
3. Many Christians have a sense of clarity around the need to grow into God’s vision for us but struggle to take that into public. Why are we tempted to leave our faith-informed selves in private? What happens when we fully live as humans in public? Justin talked about collisions that might result from being human in public, have you had collisions? What happened? It seems like if Christians live out their faith in public, collisions are inevitable in a multi-cultural world, how can we better prepare for them?
4. One of the most common excuses Christians use to avoid evangelism is that they simply don’t know how to do it. Justin argued that our behavior on Facebook begs to differ. What is the difference between evangelizing our friends with the gospel of diets, exercise or politics and our faith? Why is one harder than the other? For the nonChristian, do you feel like there is a difference? If so, what is it? How can Christians utilize the skills they already

employ in these other areas for the sake of the gospel?

5. Justin ended the sermon by asking this rhetorical question, “Is the gospel really Good News to you or is it just another good news like our diet advice and essential oil application?” Do we really believe that the gospel is the best news a person could hear? Do we believe that it is the only thing that can really bring ultimate joy? If so, why do we hesitate to talk about it? If we don’t (and I encourage honestly here), what do we believe is better news?