

Journey With God!

Teaching to inspire
missional living

Sample

WE ARE A NEW CREATION

DAY - 1

OPENER:

With the arrival of a new term comes the tendency to assess ourselves to see how well (or otherwise!) we have performed. Taking the time to step back and evaluate is a good rhythm to apply in your life. However, if we are only personally reflecting on ourselves, we will no doubt miss items. Have you ever thought of bringing God into the situation and asking Him what He thinks? These reflections will help you do just this. Make sure you take the time to listen to the voice of God as He looks to reveal His love and His take on life to help you succeed in all you do.

REFLECTION AND APPLICATION:

When entering into a relationship with God, our hope is that each of you will begin again as a newly created person. Yesterday is gone and forgotten by God, your slate is wiped clean. Don't dwell on previous mistakes or things left undone. God says, in **Hebrews 8:12**, '***Their (believers) sins and iniquities I will remember no more***'. If He doesn't remember, why should you? Start every new day with Him asking what He thinks, feels and sees is the best way to live.

BIBLE PASSAGE

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)

QUESTIONS:

- Q.** What comes to mind when you think of the words New Creation?
- Q.** Do you need to ask Jesus to help you overcome items you know are wrong?
- Q.** What do we need to say sorry for and leave at the foot of the cross?
- Q.** Do you need to reconnect to Jesus and remind yourself of what it means to live by the grace of God as New Creation through the action of Jesus upon the cross?

Scan For More Missional Resource or visit www.missionalgen.co.uk



A NEW LIFE

DAY - 2

(Fact taken from Childbearing of UK and non-UK born women living in the UK, 2011 Census data Release)

OPENER:

A new life. According to the Office for National Statistics there were 698,512 live births in England and Wales in 2013. Wow, that is a lot of lives entering the world and, as we are in 2015, there will be many more living in the UK. This means that more than 698,512 individuals need to know that they are made in the image of God and that He loves them just the way they are. This calculation is a reminder to us that we need to be willing to be born again as well as learning to reveal the love, acceptance and truth we all have found in God through our relationship with Him. Our responsibility is to make sure others can receive the opportunity, as we have, to be born again spiritually.

REFLECTION AND APPLICATION:

To put off your old self means to make a decision to stop and not turn back no matter how hard it might be. God calls all that believe Him to live within the significance He offers us, within the newness of Life we get when we say YES to Him and NO to the world. Being in “sonship” relationship with God requires us to repent and turn away from items that corrupt us. Your mind has to be renewed before it can expect new things. God wants to re-create you to be more like Him! This is exciting isn't it!? It also means that as we grow in this reality we then help lead

others into transformation and fullness of life. Just imagine how it would look to see your family, peers and people you meet come to also understand this reality. Wouldn't it be amazing to see National Statistics reporting that 698,512 people (spiritual births) came to know Jesus realising they are created after the likeness of the God of true righteousness and holiness?

BIBLE PASSAGE

Put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

Ephesians 4:22-24 (ESV)

QUESTIONS:

- Q.** Do you need to take time to re-new your mind by saying sorry to God? (Take time to share with your leader how you might like help)
- Q.** Will you ask God today to help you see what needs to change within your life so that you can work with God to see more than 698,512 spiritual births come to know Him?

I AM DOING A NEW THING. CAN YOU SEE IT?



DAY - 3

OPENER:

There is something quite special about the New Year taking place within the season of Winter. In the Autumn, plants start to die, crops have been harvested, trees lose their leaves and nature gets ready for the silent emptiness of the forthcoming Winter. But Winter isn't just about death, because without Winter there would be no Spring. Without Nature's instinctive period of pruning and preparation, the ground would not be ready or able to bring forth it's new life. And what we see in Nature is also true within us spiritually. January is a time of the year where heaven invites us to come to the Lord in prayer seeking His power and addressing what needs attention in us so that newness can spring up within us.

REFLECTION AND APPLICATION:

Have you felt a bit dry and dusty lately? God wants to surprise you with something new when you least expect it. He's going to make your desert spring up with new life and growth, and turn it into a garden. The exciting result of this spring of new life and growth within us is that it is not just there for us personally to enjoy, but it is also meant to be a signpost for the world to see and encounter the Kingdom of God too. So next

time we find God is doing a new thing we need to be asking ourselves what does He want the world to understand about what He is doing, and how does He see me playing a role in it?

BIBLE PASSAGE

Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Isaiah 43:19 (ESV)

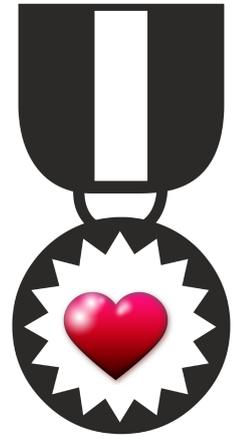
QUESTIONS:

- Q.** Do you feel you are someone who allows time for God to speak and reveal things to you? (keep a record / journal).
- Q.** Do you feel this is something you struggle with?

Why not invite God to help you clear your mind and ask Him to share with you things He wants to reveal to you, so the new plans He has for you will make a way for you to deal with what the coming weeks bring. Learning to give Him space to develop our spiritual hearing, seeing and understanding within our devotional times helps ignite faith within us.

BE STRONG - LET YOUR HEART TAKE COURAGE

DAY - 4



OPENER:

The understanding of love, learning to be love and showing love towards others is shaped by the world we live in. We are, more than ever, in a society that is about achieving and getting the most out of the things we do regardless of what others might think or feel. We just have to look at the reaction, actions and mindsets of the people that lined up outside High Street shops on black Friday, and how this shows the world that they did not care about the message of love revealed to us over 2000 years ago. The message of love came at a cost for Jesus. He came into the world and offered us all the chance to be loved, show love and see transformation for those that believed.

REFLECTION AND APPLICATION:

We are encouraged to love the Lord more and more, and lean on him more and more. Sometimes God allows our circumstances to shape our character, and to help us grow in maturity. This is much more than just thinking positive thoughts! We are learning to be more like Him and to live within His protection. The idea of living within His protection means that He takes all our needs, challenges and feeds His living power into them so that we grasp a deeper understanding of His protection, provision as well as the Love He has for us. Over time we will start to learn that God offers us great security that comes

when we are filled with His Love. This moment of revelation will shape the way we live and take on life. To be filled with His love means we are not conforming with the way of this world but living dangerously for Him, free from fear or concern of others. As we remain in God's love we learn to live within the loyalty of Heaven. Heaven then becomes alive within us and we cultivate in us the love and acceptance of the power of God we choose to embrace through our relationship with Him. This passage also outlines a warning to us. If we put something other than God 1st, we limit the love God is looking to lavish upon us. God's love is not created to win 2nd place in our lives. Our hearts were not made to serve other rulers.

BIBLE PASSAGE

Love the Lord, all you his saints. The Lord preserves the faithful, but abundantly repays the one who acts haughtily. Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord. Psalm 31:23-24 (ESV)

QUESTIONS:

Q. Do you feel that you are trying to follow God but still find yourself looking to the world for security and acceptance instead of taking courage in waiting on the love God can and is willing to offer you if you allow him?

HOW HEALTHY IS MY HEART



DAY - 5

OPENER:

Wouldn't it be great if we could look into the future and see what will happen? Maybe it would help prevent problems/bad things from taking place, allow us to save for a rainy day or simply encourage us to make sure we have a future. The meaning of the word "future" is 'time regarded as still to come'. We can't fully understand time without the past, present and future. The Bible says our times are in God's hands. It says He has given us a hope and a future. When God formed us in our mother's womb He gave us a heart that would see us through our lifetime; a heart that can pump the equivalent of nearly 1.5 million barrels of blood during your life and today alone will beat over 100,000 times. We need our heart if we are to see our future.

REFLECTION AND APPLICATION:

It can be difficult, when we are struggling with something, to see someone else apparently sailing through life without a care in the world! The easy thing to do would be to envy them. Don't! A little opposition makes us stronger because we have to rely on God all the more, and trust that He knows what He is doing! If you ever find yourself in this situation, ask, "how healthy is my heart?" Checking our hearts daily, when faced with difficult situations, is vital. If we find that we are fostering envy, jealousy

or aggression within our heart, then those are the things we are likely to produce. This means we are not allowing the wisdom and direction of God to guide us in His way. In the November 2009 issue of "Harvard Health Letter", it states that people who listened to music for 20 to 30 minutes each day had lower blood pressure and a slowed heart rate compared with those who did not. If listening to music helps our hearts, then surely worshiping God is even better at developing a healthy heart, directing us on the right path to walk, giving us the right attitude and the means to deal with the future.

BIBLE PASSAGE

Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off. Hear, my son, and be wise, and direct your heart in the way.

Proverbs 23:18-19 (ESV)

QUESTIONS:

- Q.** Reflect on how healthy you feel your heart is, do you need to forgive, let go and let God in? (why not make a list if this helps you focus)
- Q.** Do you need to worship God more and ask God to reveal His direction and view on the way you are to live?

Life is a journey with many twists and turns, many roads down which we can choose to travel. Most of the time we make decisions about which road to take without any advice from others over where it will lead. God has given us His Word - the Bible, and the testimonies of others to help as our roadmap, but Satan is on the lookout for individuals he can isolate and ensnare in his traps.

This booklet contains 10 short devotional guides to encourage you on your journey, strengthen your relationship with Father God and steer you away from the traps that the enemy has set. Each one draws on a verse of scripture, providing a life application and questions for you to reflect upon. Our hope is that it will help develop a daily rhythm in your life of drawing close to God and applying His Word to every situation, twist and turn that you take.

If you'd like to know more about Missional Generation and the resources we have to offer, check out our website:

www.missionalgen.co.uk



Let us know if this was helpful:

T: @Missionalgen F: Missional Generation W: www.missionalgen.co.uk

© Missional Generation (2015) // Charity Number 1156660