



Come As You Are

1. Get comfortable with _____

Ephesians 1:3-4a (NIV) *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴ For he chose us...*

2. Get generous with _____

1 Corinthians 9:22b (TLB) *Yes, whatever a person is like, I try to find common ground with him so that he will let me tell him about Christ and let Christ save him.*

1 Corinthians 9:19-23 (TM) *Even though I am free of the demands and expectations of everyone, I have voluntarily become a servant to any and all in order to reach a wide range of people: ²⁰ religious, nonreligious, ²¹ meticulous moralists, loose-living immoralists, ²² the defeated, the demoralized—whoever. I didn't take on their way of life. I kept my bearings in Christ—but I entered their world and tried to experience things from their point of view. I've become just about every sort of servant there is in my attempts to lead those I meet into a God-saved life. ²³ I did all this because of the Message. I didn't just want to talk about it; I wanted to be in on it!*

3. Get serious about _____

Ephesians 1:3-8 (NIV) *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴ For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵ he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace ⁸ that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.*

Romans 15:7 (NIV) *Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.*

4. Get wild about _____

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 (NIV) *Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders ¹⁰ nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.*

¹¹ *And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.*

LifeGroup Study

Stepping In: Getting things started!

1. Welcome! It's great to start a new season of LifeGroups!
Please take a few minutes and introduce yourselves by sharing your name and one thing you did in the last month that was a blast.
2. Tell of a time when you experienced God's grace through another person.

Building Up: What is God Saying?

1. Read **Ephesians 1:3-14**.
2. Pick the one verse that speaks most clearly to you today and write it out below: (share with the group which verse you chose.)
3. **(Eph. 1:3)** We, as His church, can get focused on all kinds of things that are NOT Jesus. Name a couple things we get caught up focusing on that actually take our eyes off of the One who it's all about.

4. **(Eph. 1:4-8)** Although we are messed up, God's plan from the very beginning was to adopt us into His family. He heals, forgives and cleans us up. How does this reality affect the way you look at everyday life?
5. **(Eph. 1:9-10)** What is the importance of Paul using the word "pleasure" to describe how God looks at us and what He wants to accomplish in us?
6. **(Eph. 1:11-14)** Share two or three significant truths that really stand out to you in these verses. How does each truth change the way you'll approach your day tomorrow?

Living Out – How do I obey?

1. Why is it so critical for a church to be welcoming and open to people who are hurting, broken, searching and just plain messy?
2. Each person in the group share the name of someone you'll invite this next week to a weekend service and to your LifeGroup.