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## WEEK 3

# WHO AM I?

### OBJECTIVE

This week, we get into revealing our brokenness and the sin that is in our lives. Be prayerful about this week and come ready to allow space for people to confess their sins to one another. This week will also end with giving your group members an opportunity to commit their lives to Jesus. Read through the prayer and be ready if someone in your group is ready to take this next step.

\*If yours is a co-ed group, during that portion of the group time, create space for men to be with men and women to be with women.

### CHECKLIST

- Pray over each group member by name.
- Send out mid-week text to check in with Small Group members.
- Start looking into serving opportunities for the Week 9 Serve Experience.
- Invite group members to bring any questions from last week's devotions.
- Remind group members of upcoming Next Steps opportunities (Baptism, Connect, etc.)
- Select someone to share their story next week.

### SMALL GROUP

#### SOCIAL: 10 MINUTES

Welcome the group, introduce people, make it comfortable.

#### ICEBREAKER: 5 MINUTES

Have you ever looked up the meaning of your name? Do you know the story of how your parents came up with your name?

#### STORY: 3 MINUTES

At least a few days in advance, ask one person from the group to share their story of what their life was like before Jesus and when they made the decision to follow Jesus. (Be sure to hold them to a 3-minute limit!)

#### INTRODUCTION: 5 MINUTES

Remind attendees of the purpose of this group and the importance of their (and your) commitment to it. Celebrate any milestones or next steps of individuals in the group.

Allow participants to share their thoughts on the previous week's devotional and encourage them to ask any questions they had written down regarding last week's topic.

"How did you see God move through you this week through your devotions?"

"What questions did you write down?"

#### VIDEO: 15 MINUTES

Set up and introduce Pastor Patrick and the topic for this week's video.

"Today's topic will be all about answering the question Who Am I? Last week, we learned about who God is and now the next question to create a strong foundation is finding out who we are and how and why God created us. Let's turn our attention to the video and lean in."

#### READ: 2 MINUTES

Open your Bibles together and read through this week's passage. Be sure that everyone is able to find the book, chapter and verses and encourage group members to take turns reading.

*God Created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.*

GENESIS 1:27

#### DISCUSSION: 30 MINUTES

Lead the group through the reflection questions, encouraging them to even ask their own questions. (This is not the time for the leader to talk, but for participants to engage with each other. Rule of thumb: you talk 30% of the time, they talk 70% of the time.) Be sure that no one or two people dominate the conversation, but you're facilitating and directing the participation of everyone.

### QUESTION 1

Close our eyes and reflect for a moment. How has sin affected your life? How has sin affected your parents and your grandparents' lives?

### QUESTION 2

Share how you've seen sin affect your relationship with Christ.

### VIDEO (LAST 5 MINUTES)

Now let's jump back to the video and here the good news!!

### QUESTION 3

"Only when we understand the severity of our condition can we appreciate the lengths God went to free us from that condition."

How does this phrase help you have more appreciation for what Jesus did for you on the cross?

### QUESTION 4

Read Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, BUT the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

How does this help you look at the people in your life from a different perspective?

### QUESTION 5

If someone asked you to help lead them to Jesus, do you know how to do that?

### PRAYER: 15 MINUTES

Split into groups of two and pray.

\*Note that this week we are getting more vulnerable than participants may feel comfortable with. However, this is what this group is for! James 5:16 says, "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

Prayer Focus: Confess to one another where you feel sin has entered your life and pray healing over one another.

### NEXT STEPS: 5 MINUTES

Introduce the materials and encourage members to engage in their weekly devotions for the coming week. Discuss any upcoming events or opportunities for them to take next steps (attending worship experiences, baptism, Rock City Connect, serving beyond our walls).

"If you are here tonight and you want to make a decision to follow Jesus with your life, this is the best step you can take. If that's you, I want to encourage us as a group to come alongside one another and have you pray that prayer tonight."

"Jesus, I need You. I trust you as Lord and savior of my life, I recognize your presence here. I call upon Your name with every ounce of faith that I have. Even if it's not a lot of faith I'm trusting you. Give me faith as I choose to follow You to live my life for You. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and forgive my every sin. Lead me daily by your presence and heal my heart in my mind and my body make me whole, full of peace and life and promise in Jesus' name, amen."

Additional next steps:

- Show up next week!
- Encourage group members to do their devotions and look into next week's topic of How Does God Speak? Remind them to reflect on this subject and write down any questions they may have as they go through the book this week.
- If anyone has not yet been baptized, encourage them to pray about taking that next step ([rockcitychurch.tv/baptism](http://rockcitychurch.tv/baptism)).