

**Rewired!**

**Pastor Don Brock**

### **Discussion Guide**

*Use this guide by yourself, with a friend, or in a group to help you pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus this week!*

#### **Open**

This week Pastor Don helps us understand how God works to transform our attitudes and actions through the power of His Holy Spirit who comes to live with us when we choose to follow Jesus. It's a process of change that helps us become more and more like Christ (see Romans 8:29), but it also can cause some strain as we realize that we have to put in effort as well to become the person He created us to become. To get your group started, let everyone share whether they prefer old, comfy clothes or a snazzy new outfit and why...

#### **BIG THOUGHT**

After we make the decision to follow Jesus, we need to choose to partner with the Holy Spirit's transformational work in us by making choices in keeping with God's desires for our lives.

#### **Dig**

1. Read Ephesians 4:17-19. What are the characteristics of the Gentiles (non-believers) that Paul says the Jesus followers in Ephesus should avoid? Why do people who aren't following Jesus live this way (see v. 18)? How can understanding their perspective help us talk with them about spiritual things (see 1 Peter 3:15)?
2. Now read v. 20-24. What should we be doing after we begin following Jesus? Who helps us in this task (v. 23)? How does Paul describe our new nature (v. 24)? Do you think he's talking about what we will become in the future or is this what we can be right here and now? Explain your thoughts.

3. Now read v. 25 - 29. Are any of these behaviors things that you've struggled with in your life? If you've made the decision to follow Jesus, could you say that you've seen God bring changes in these areas? Share with the group if you can.
4. Now read v. 30. Why do you think Paul wants to get across the twin dynamics of our responsibility and God's reassurance in this verse? What can happen if we focus too much on our own responsibility for making godly choices? What if we focus too much on our secure standing with God and ignore the impact of our choices? Explain.
5. Paul concludes his thoughts on how we should partner with God's process of changing us to be like Jesus in Ephesians 5:15-21. How would you sum up v. 15-17? Is it strange to you that he mentions music as an influence (v. 19) - why or why not? How does an attitude of thankfulness affect our spirit? (v. 20) How does our willingness to submit to others demonstrate our Christ-likeness? (v. 21)

#### **Take it Further**

Talk with God and thank Him for His desire to change you into the likeness of Jesus - then ask Him to give you strength to make choices in keeping with your new life in Christ!

#### Daily Readings

Day 1: 2 Corinthians 7:1

Day 2: 1 Peter 2:24

Day 3: 2 Timothy 2:22

Day 4: 1 Thessalonians 4:7

Day 5: Romans 12:1

Day 6: 1 Corinthians 6:20

Memory Verse: Ephesians 4:21-23



**GATEWAY**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

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