

**Foundations: Week 1:
Embracing the Gospel (at a point in time)**

Welcome to our fall series on Foundations where we will learn
“to walk out this messy process of life with God - together.” -Brad Bell

1. Last week, we ended life group with a prayer of intention. What was that like for you? Did anyone practice that during the week? Would you share your experience if so?
2. As you reflect about last week, where did you see God at work in your life? In the good and in the hard places?
3. Read Ephesians 2:1-10 as a group. What from this week's teaching or from this passage was significant to you from both this passage and this week's teaching? And why?
4. The Gospel, the Good News of Jesus Christ, starts with creation in Genesis 1-2. Knowing God as our Creator and knowing humanity is created in His image, impacts not just eternal life, but our daily life. In what ways does knowing you are created in God's image impact your daily life? How does it impact the way you see others?

We weren't created for our own glory, we were created to display His. -Brad Bell

5. Reflect on (or reread) “The Bad News” in Genesis 3. When we understand the true nature of sin is autonomy (life without God), our need for the gospel becomes more clear. In what ways have you seen autonomy in your own life? How can you embrace the gospel to overcome your own autonomy?

**Closing Practice:
Prayer of reflection and gratitude.**

To be reconciled with the One who created you, something needs to happen. You need to embrace the gospel. We're going to take a moment to pause and reflect.

*If you have never placed your faith in Christ, You might pray a simple prayer like this;
“Jesus, I believe you are the Son of God, that you died on the cross to rescue me from sin and death, and to restore me to the Father. I choose now to turn from my sin and autonomy. I choose to surrender my life to you.”

Or, you may just take a moment and tell God what is on your heart - in your own words.
(Be honest, candid, and real with Him. He can take it. There are no right or wrong words. There is no magic formula. Just pray, telling your Heavenly Father what's on your heart. He is waiting to be with you - in love.)

For those who have already embraced the gospel, take a moment and thank God for the work of salvation. (Just pause and pray. What a gift He has given you through Christ)

Which piece of the good news of Jesus did you most need to remember to be true? Why does that matter?

(Pause for a minute - 60 seconds - and sit in silence. Just sit, thinking of the work of Christ on your behalf. Let your mind settle into the silence and be still. Be reminded of the depth of His love for you. When the minute has passed, share with the Lord whatever is on your heart. It may be thanksgiving, it may be joy, it may be guilt and shame. It may be regret or frustration. Be honest, come out of hiding, remove the covering, and speak candidly with God. He is waiting to be with you - in love.)

Each person share with the group what came up during this reflection time and a few close out in a prayer of gratitude for the Gospel.