

SMALL GROUP Q'S

Witness Protection Christianity, Part 1
June 21, 2015
Ephesians 4:17-24

- 1.) Explain in your own words the tension between the "new creation" in Christ and the ongoing struggle with sin.
- 2.) When in your own life as a follower of Christ have you felt the frustration of the ongoing struggle with sin?

HINT: The more honest we can be in these conversations within our small groups, the better. Remember that the personal transparency of the leader will often be mirrored by the rest of the group (i.e. be prepared to start with a struggle of your own). You know your groups well; if splitting men and women for this discussion leads to more honest conversation, go for it. In general, we need to be able to confess sin with each other, men and women. However, honesty in gender-specific conversations is preferable to a surface-level mixed-gender conversation.

- 3.) What are some similarities between the "new life" a witness receives in witness protection and the new life Jesus provides for sinners who trust in Him?
- 4.) What lie that sin tells you do you find yourself most regularly tempted to believe?
HINT: Will mentioned a few examples: "No one will get hurt," "You can stop when you want," "You deserve better," and "God will forgive you; grace is there for all your sin, so it's OK; it will even make grace seem bigger to you."
- 5.) What is called to mind by the language of v24: "created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness"?
HINT: Genesis 1, created in God's image and in relationship with him.
- 6.) What does it look like when we take the burden of true righteousness and holiness on ourselves? How does the gospel give comfort and hope to sinning believers?



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