



THIS CULTURAL MOMENT

What Happens When Life Goes Backwards? | 11.21-22.2020

Grow Deep Conversation Questions: Use these questions to help you process the message in your personal time of study or with your group. Time suggestions are based on a 90-minute group gathering.

Message Recap: This year has been plagued with politics, pandemics, and protests. Many of us are feeling the weight of it all and keep wondering when it will end. But what if we spent some time reflecting on what God is doing right now, in us and through us - in this moment?

» Opening

(2-3 minutes)

- Introductions - this is especially important if this is your first meeting and if there are new members
- Housekeeping - clarify expectations
 - **Announcements:** These are in your Community News email. **Please read and communicate! Encourage participation!**
 - Remind your group that this is a confidential meeting
 - **Remember, there may be many thoughts and views. Please remain kind and respectful during conversations.**
- Pray - open your time together in prayer

» Introduction

(12 minutes)

- Ice-Breaker: What is one word you would use to describe this past year?
- Digging Deeper: What were your hopes for this year? What are your hopes for the next year?

» Observation | Read 1 Peter 3:8-17

(12 minutes)

- What are your initial reactions to this passage? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

» Key Principle | When the world goes low, show it heaven.

(12 minutes)

- What would it actually look like to show the world "heaven" right now? What might happen if you did?

» Stay Together | Reference 1 Peter 3:8-9

(12 minutes)

- Peter is appealing to his readers about how to stay unified in difficult times. What is the area that is most challenging for you to live out right now?

» Stay Faithful | Reference 1 Peter 3:10-12

(12 minutes)

- How is the pressure of this fall putting new weight on you to stay faithful?
- Who are the people in your life that are helping you maintain healthy perspectives and rhythms during this time?

» Stay Respectful | Reference 1 Peter 3:13-17

(12 minutes)

- What are the proactive steps you are taking to stay respectful of others, even those who are not respectful towards you?

» Next Steps and Prayer |

(15 minutes)

- Repent. Return. Resolve. Over the course of the next week, carve out some time with Jesus to reflect on each of these areas and what you need to do in each area.
- Close by praying for each other in this difficult moment. Ask specifically what each group member would like prayer for.