



DISCUSSION GUIDE

July 5/8, 2018

Growing Old Gracefully

BIG IDEA: The key to growing old is living new.

GROUPS VISION

We believe life transformation happens when we engage with other people, with Jesus as our focus, and take next steps together. A next step is where we Ask, Listen, and Respond to take any action that advances our journey with Jesus.

My Story.

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KEY VERSE

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here!

2 Corinthians 5:17

POTENTIAL NEXT STEP

Spend some time thanking God for giving you a new life in Jesus. A treasure chest where everything has been made new; every wrong made right, every hurt healed, and every sorrow redeemed.

MAIN POINTS & SCRIPTURES

As Jesus grew in strength and wisdom, He attracted the grace and blessing of God. **(Luke 2:40)** Jesus makes all things new. He ushered in a new covenant so we could live by a new commandment. He gave us a new heart with a new spirit so we could put off the old self and put on the new self. The key to growing old is embracing the new that Jesus brings. Here are three practical ways we can live out the NEW that Jesus brings:

1. Embrace the new within you. In Christ we are new creations, we have completely new identities. **(2 Corinthians 5:17)** Too often in life we get stuck in our old ways and miss the new that Jesus brings. Jesus is doing a new thing and our old garments/identities (grave clothes) don't belong in this season. **(John 11:39-44)**
2. See the new right in front of you. Becoming old has its origins in the Garden of Eden; we all became slaves to decay as a result of Adam's sin. **(Romans 8:20-21 TPT)** Jesus came to restore what Satan came to steal. **(Revelation 21:4-5)** Jesus wants us to enjoy the newness He brings in the present, instead of just waiting for the newness of heaven. When we see the life-giving spirit of Jesus, it's easy to see the newness of life right in front of us. **(1 Corinthians 15:45)**
3. Invest in the new behind you. When we pour our lives into children and students around us, our ceiling becomes their floor and God supercharges us with His power and purpose. **(Psalm 103:5 TPT)** No matter how old we are, investing in the lives of others will impact them and change us.

On the days when 'old' seems to overwhelm us, and we feel tired and worn out, we can be confident Jesus is making all things new. **(Matthew 19:27-29)** This is a promise for us today. It's worth it to follow Jesus!

DISCUSSION

1. Jesus is the only one that can bring new from the old. What are some old habits you might be clinging to? Identify them and declare the newness of Jesus over them. **(See point #1)**
2. Talk about some ways you can invest in the next generation. How does this 'supercharge' you? **(See point #3)**
3. What is the Holy Spirit saying to you? What is your next step?