



All Things New

Romans 8:28

Growth Group Discussion Questions from September 10, 2017

Getting Started:

- 1) On a scale of 1 – 10 (1 = are you crazy? and 10 = bring it on!), how open are you to change?
 - a. What is one change you have experienced in the last year? What was your emotional reaction as you went through it?

- 2) A healthy church or body of Christ is on the move. A body in motion is more likely to stay in motion; a body at rest (stuck) is more likely to stay at rest (stuck).
 - a. In general, do you feel the American church is stuck or moving with the Spirit? Explain.

 - b. As a part of Christ's body, do you feel you are currently keeping in step with the Spirit or spiritually stuck?

 - c. What have you found to be typical indicators of spiritual stagnation (stuck-ness) in your life?

 - d. How does a person change from stuck to getting back in motion?

Going Deeper:

Jesus frequently challenged the religious leaders of his day to think outside of their small, inflexible religious box to see and experience what new thing God was doing right in front of them! One such incident revolved around the practice of fasting—but really wasn't about fasting at all. Jesus' sees through their question to the root issue.

3) **READ:** Mark 2:18-22. – Jot down any insights, questions, or key observations.

4) What was Jesus' point?

- a. Fasting is outdated and has no value for believers today
- b. You can't put new ideas into old mind-sets. You can't get new results with old behaviors.
- c. Jesus didn't come to reform or patch up a system that was already in place, but to bring something completely different
- d. With God, your heart and mind always have to remain flexible
- e. Other _____

Bringing it Home

5) **READ:** Isaiah 48:18-29. Jot down any insights, questions or thoughts.

- a. How well do you think you perceive “new things” from God?

- b. What distracts you from perceiving the “new things” of God the most?
 - i. Dwelling on nostalgic aspects of how to be the church
 - ii. Fear of what might happen
 - iii. Comfort and familiarity with the way things are now
 - iv. Overwhelmed with family or work issues
 - v. Apathy
 - vi. Other _____

6) Is there anything you need to do in response to this week's teaching?