EMBRACING INSIGNIFICANCE

2 Corinthians 4:7-12 January 31, 2016

The questions below are intended to be used by Saylorville Church Cell Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the needs of their unique group.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- On Sunday, Pastor Brad mentioned that he dreamed of being a rock star when he was younger
 - ⇒ When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?
 - → Now that you're older, how do your roles or jobs compare to those you once dreamed about?
 - → Why do you think people in our culture find their significance or identity in "what they do"?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- What is your one thing from Sunday? What stuck out to you about what you heard (a new idea, an application, a challenge, a question, or a new thing you learned)?
- Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-12
- In his message, Pastor Brad shared two results of finding your significance in Christ:
- 1. If you find your significance in Christ, you can live how you were designed (vs. 7)
 - "If we long for significance, we must first embrace our own insignificance."
 - → Why is this quote so hard to grasp?
 - → Can you think of examples that show that our culture teaches us to over-emphasize our own significance, even from a young age?
 - · According to verse 6, what is our treasure?
 - Sometimes, we fall into the trap of believing that we are so talented, so smart, so good looking that God is just lucky to have us! How does this passage help us fight our tendency to overestimate the value of what we bring to our relationship with Christ?
 - How can you practically live your life as a parent, spouse, employee, friend with the goal of glorifying God and enjoying Him forever, as the Westminster Catechism states?
- 2. If you find your significance in Christ, you can find hope in troubled times (vs. 8-9)
 - If you're comfortable doing so, talk about a time in your life when you felt like you were under intense pressure, at a loss, or pinned down with little hope
 - → How do the words "but not" encourage you in this passage?
 - Skim through 2 Corinthians 11:24-28, noticing all the hardships that Paul endured
 - → Try to put yourself in Paul's shoes what would motivate you to keep going every day?
 - What might your life look like on a daily basis (at work, at school, at home, etc.) if you had the same focus on Christ that Paul did?
 - ⇒ Is that possible for you this week? Why, or why not?

In verses 10-12, Paul reminds us that Jesus left His home in heaven to come to earth to die for clay pots like you and me. Let the reality of that sink in, and commit to living in light of that truth.

PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

• Pray together, thanking God for His grace in sending Christ to die for clay pots like us, and asking Him for opportunities to share the treasure of the Gospel with those who don't yet know Him.

