

# The Story of Redemption

## Session 2: ReShaped (Galatians 1:15-16)

In this session, you'll see that everyone is on a journey of transformation as God ReShapes them into the people they are becoming.

### WELCOME

- Take a few moments to continue to get to know each other (share names/introduce any new people) and to recap what you learned from last week's lesson.
- Share a high, low or interesting moment from your life this past week.
- What is one thing that resonated with you most from last week's lesson as we were reminded that everyone has a life story that has shaped them in a variety of ways?

### INTRODUCTION

- **Read Psalm 139:1-16.** How does it make you feel being reminded that God knows you so intimately?
- In his book, *Hearing God*, Dallas Willard says, "God has created us for intimate friendship with himself—both now and forever." How does it make you feel that God knows everything about you and still wants to be in relationship with you? Explain.
- Being in relationship with God includes a journey of transformation.

### GOD WANTS TO RESHAPE YOUR LIFE

- There is a hidden dimension to every human life that is foundational to who we are becoming. This hidden dimension makes up the true character of the person.
- God has given each of us the space to become the person we choose to be.

- Spiritual formation is the process through which people become who they are meant to be. Everyone gets a "spiritual formation" – the result is a character. Each of us becomes a certain kind of person with a specific character (good or bad).
- As disciples of Jesus our aim is to receive a *Christian* spiritual formation as opposed to a *carnal* spiritual formation. God's desire for every person is that "*Christ would be formed*" in us (Galatians 4:19) and that we would learn to "*live by the Spirit*" and not by the "*works of the flesh*" (Galatians 5:16-26).
- God wants to **ReShape** your life as you choose to follow him — this involves forgiveness and transformation by God's grace as you become more like Jesus.

### FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS

- Why do you think God gives us the space to become the people we choose to be?
- What are some of the main things that have shaped you into the person you've become to this point in your life?

There's more on page two. Don't worry about getting to every question but make sure the conversation doesn't get off track.



## LESSONS FROM PAUL'S STORY

- Read Acts 9:1-9. What jumps out to you from this part of Paul's (Saul's) story?
- As Jesus appeared to Paul on his way to persecute Christians in Damascus, Paul was disheartened to learn that in actuality, he was standing in the way of what God was doing to change the world. But his heart was open, he surrendered to God and became obedient from that day forward. He went where God pointed and he did what God instructed.
- Read Galatians 1:15-16. As we flash forward in Paul's story about his transformation, what stands out to you from what he shares with the church in Galatia?
- Paul mentions receiving three wonderful gifts that God had prepared to give him. He says, "*But even before I was born, God chose me and called me by his marvelous grace. Then it pleased him to reveal his Son to me...*" (Galatians 1:15-16a NLT).

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What transformed the zealous persecutor into the zealous apostle? How is any of his transformation experience similar to yours?
- What are your "before and after" conversion stories? Share one key way God has transformed you to this point in your journey?
- Look back at the three gifts God gave Paul mentioned in Galatians 1:15-16 — 1) God chose him, 2) God called him, and 3) God revealed His son to him. What strikes you the most about these gifts and how do they also apply to every follower of Jesus (read Ephesians 1:3-5, 2:8-10, and 2 Corinthians 3:17-18)?
- What is one area of your life where you need to ask God to ReShape the person you are becoming? What step do you need to take in this area and how can we help you in this journey?

## CONCLUSION

Spend some time in prayer as you wrap up this meeting and confirm details for your next group meeting.

Reminder: Don't forget to take attendance using the Lead App or directly through The Hills Connect.

