



RENEWAL

April 27th - May 3rd

Use the questions below to help extend the impact of the week-end message. They are not only useful in your LifeGroup, but try discussing with your family, friends, and co-workers for even greater understanding and spiritual growth.

Opening Prayer (5 minutes): Have someone lead the group in prayer, asking God to open the hearts to the message of our need for continual renewing of our spirit through God's Word.

Icebreaker (10 minutes): What's your favorite thing about spring (e.g., blooming flowers, warmer weather, longer days)? How does spring help you to feel renewed or refreshed?

Bible Reading (10 minutes): Read the following passages aloud as a group:

- Isaiah 55:10-11 (God's Word nourishes like rain, causing growth)
- Psalm 51:10 (David's prayer for a clean heart)
- John 11:25 (Jesus as the resurrection and the life)
- 2 Corinthians 5:17 (New creation in Christ)

Discuss as a group how these verses tie to spring renewal and spiritual renewal together.

Discussion Questions (30 minutes)

1. Spring as a Reflection of Renewal
 - Alan's bulletin article compares spring's awakening (blossoming flowers, budding trees) to spiritual renewal. What aspects of spring resonate with you as symbols of God's work in your life?
 - How does Isaiah 55:10-11's imagery of rain nourishing the earth deepen your understanding of how God's word renews us?
2. Repentance and Cleansing
 - How might Psalm 51:10 help us when we face "winter-like" seasons in our spiritual life (e.g., doubt, sin, or dryness)?
3. Resurrection and New Life
 - Discuss what it means to be "a new creation" in Christ as Paul puts it in 2 Corinthians 5:17.
4. Growth and Discipline
 - Alan's article mentions how spiritual renewal, like spring growth, requires "pruning and tending" through discipline and surrender. What are some ways we cultivate the "fruit of the Spirit" (Galatians 5:22-23) in our daily lives?
5. Sharing the Message
 - The article encourages us as believers to "rejoice and share" the hope of eternal renewal through Christ. What are some practical steps we might take this week to seek and to share renewal?

Closing Prayer (5 minutes): Ask for any prayer requests specifically those related to seeking spiritual renewal and sharing the gospel. Spend some time thanking God for the gift of spring and the promise of renewal through Christ Jesus.