

# Small Group Sermon Questions

Sunday, Sept.22, 2019



## ***Part Three: Backward Rebellion***

**BLESS Rhythms** – At the recent leaders meeting we discussed having small groups adopt the BLESS Rhythms. For those of you who weren't there please connect with Dave, Sid or Carolyn to find out what this is all about. If someone in your group has taken Surge they can certainly explain it. See the bottom of the questions for an explanation and description of these rhythms. Small groups are encouraged to begin each session with 10-15 minutes of sharing how you have incorporated the BLESS rhythms into your life each week.

We have found that at the beginning these practices can feel a bit clunky—even the act of talking about who we are eating with/blessing feels weird sometimes. But as you do it week after week it becomes mutually encouraging and soul-shaping. As a group you learn how to practice your faith together and be intentional about blessing others, listening to God and others, eating with others, speaking about our faith, and practicing Sabbath.

Also, know that the aim is not to do every one of these practices every week. Some weeks you will have more opportunities to do some things and not others. That being said, the goal is to push yourself to do the things that you are currently doing.

### ***Opening question***

1. Share a time where you felt God's goodness and shalom.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Share a time where you felt the effects of sin in your life.

### ***Going Deeper Questions***

1. Read Genesis 2:15-25 and Genesis 3:1-13. Compare the two. What's changed? Why?

2. Why are the stories of Gen 1-3 so important to us and our understanding of life?
3. How does the rest of the Bible reflect these two defining stories?
4. Do you need saving? Why? Why is this so important? What does Romans 3:10-11 have to say about this?
5. How honest are you about other people's brokenness? How about your own? Can you be brutally honest without getting stuck in despair or self loathing? What does Matthew 7:3-5 have to say about this?
6. Adam and Eve felt shame, they hid, felt fear, and they blamed. Can you relate? What's your strongest tendency when faced with your deepest brokenness?
7. 'Did God really say...' How does this lie enter your life?
8. Eve engaged with the serpent and fell into sin while Adam ate and fell in a more seemingly passive way. Who do you relate to more? Why? What does it mean to fight sin?
9. Read Romans 8:22-23. How does this add to our sense of sin and brokenness? How does Revelations 21:5 tie together Genesis 1 and 2 with Genesis 3? And how does effect the way you live now?
10. Read I Corinthians 13:12 and John 16:33. How do these verses help us live with the tension between Shalom and the fallenness we live with?
11. Read Deuteronomy 30:19. How is this a great challenge to our day to day living?

## **BLESS Rhythms**

**BLESS:** This is the practice of blessing another person. It can be big or small (buying coffee, encouraging text/email, etc.). *Who have you blessed this week?*

**LISTEN:** This is the practice of listening, both to God and to others. *How did you set time aside this week to be a listener?*

**EAT:** This is the practice of sharing food with people. This can happen in a home or in a coffee shop. *Who are you eating with/ inviting into your home?*

**SPEAK:** This is the practice of speaking our faith. It can happen through encouragement, story sharing, and evangelism. *How have you spoken your faith this week?*

**SABBATH:** This is the practice of resting from work and taking time to rest and enjoy creation. *How are you practicing Sabbath this week?*