

# Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: 230K by 2030

Speaker: Jay Haugh

Message: The Master's Plan

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## **Memory Verse:** 1 Peter 3:15 ESV

“But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect...”

*The goal of these questions is to foster meaningful discussion and to encourage participants to reflect on God's Word and lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.*

**Big Idea:** We are called to be ambassadors so others can find hope in Jesus.

## **Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-21**

1. Paul describes a complete transformation for those who are in Christ (v 17). How would you describe the difference Christ has made in your life since you came to faith? Why do you think personal transformation often becomes the most powerful testimony to those who don't know Jesus? How might remembering *who you were* help you relate more compassionately to people who are still far from God?
2. God's plan for reaching people involves His followers actively engaging others with the message of hope (vv 18-20). What excites you most about the vision of engaging our community with gospel conversations, personal invitations, and acts of service? What fears or hesitations do you feel when you think about participating in this vision? What is one simple step you could take this week to live more intentionally as an ambassador of hope?
3. The heart of the gospel is forgiveness of sins (v 19). Why is sin such a big deal? How do you explain to someone that this “thing” that you can't see, smell, hear or touch really exists? Why do you think our culture struggles to take sin



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4. God has entrusted believers with the message of reconciliation (v 19). Why do you think Christians sometimes drift into a “fortress mindset” instead of engaging people who don’t yet know Jesus? In light of the church’s vision to engage our community with the gospel, where do you see opportunities to help others move toward reconciliation with God?
5. As ambassadors for Christ, believers participate in God’s work of calling people to be reconciled to Him (v 20). How does a person become reconciled to God? Have you ever walked with someone on their faith journey as they moved from unbeliever to believer? If so, share more about that experience. If not, how does the idea of walking alongside someone through this journey make you feel?
6. Paul doesn’t speak casually about the gospel. His words show deep urgency and compassion for those who are still far from God (v 20). In what ways can comfort, busyness, or routine slowly dull our awareness of people who are spiritually lost? How might spending less time around people who don’t know Jesus affect our urgency to share the gospel?
7. We are Christ’s ambassadors. As His ambassadors, we represent the authority and interests of Christ in foreign places (v 20). Do you see yourself as an ambassador? In what settings (workplace, neighborhood, friendships) do you find it most difficult to represent Him? How does remembering that you represent Jesus call you to regularly evaluate or reflect on your mindset and behavior?
8. Through Christ’s sacrifice on the cross, our sin is placed on Jesus and His righteousness is credited to us (v 21). Many people try to earn God’s approval through good behavior. How does this verse challenge that way of thinking? How might understanding the “great exchange” help you clearly explain the gospel to someone who is searching for hope?



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