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Part 2 – The Foundation

June 19, 2022

Key Scripture: Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and earth” ~ Matthew 28:18

Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- When was the first time you can remember talking about your faith with someone who was skeptical about it?
- Tell about a time you had a discussion about the Bible being trustworthy and authoritative.

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Pastor Jeremy talked about the true foundation of our faith. He stated that the foundation of our Faith is based on an event (the resurrection of Jesus Christ) and not based on the Bible. How do you feel about that? What’s the difference?
- How would you describe the value of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John)? Think about when they were written, who they were written by, and what they contained.
- How does focusing on Jesus and His Resurrection change discussions in which someone is trying to disprove a single bit or story in the Bible to undermine your faith?
- How does Jesus’s words, “I have been given all authority in heaven and earth” (Matthew 28:18) impact your view of the Bible?
- What impacted you most about Pastor Jeremy’s message?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- How do you feel about Jeremy’s statement that “if someone predicts their own death and resurrection and pulls it off, you should pay attention to whatever that person says”?
- In what ways was your thinking challenged concerning how to best give an answer for your faith?
- How would you share with your children or grandchildren the reason you value the Bible? Or, the reason you follow Jesus?
- Imagine: You’ve been praying for a neighbor, and you finally get a chance to move beyond surface conversations about their lawn and your kid’s baseball games. You then

mention what's going on at Epic Church or reference Jesus and you soon find out that your neighbor has several examples of stories and passages from the Bible that they just can't believe. In their mind, this renders everything about God, Jesus, The Bible, and The Church suspect or irrelevant. What do you say or do?

Start doing. Commit to a next step and live it out this week.

- What was your "next step" action from last week? How did it go?
- Based on what God is teaching you, what will you do differently this week ?
- If you haven't yet, consider joining or creating a Life Transformation group and begin reading the Gospels together.
- Intentionally connect with someone in your small group this week outside of your normal group time to get to know them better.

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

- Ask God for His help this week to take intentional next steps to continue to slow down your daily and weekly rhythm and to experience meaningful relationship with Him and others.
- Ask God for boldness and courage to ask one or two others to start a Life Transformation Group with and begin reading the Gospels together.
- Pray for your friends, family members, neighbors, and co-workers by name who don't know Jesus yet. Ask that God would give you opportunities to build relationships with them and give you opportunities for conversations with them where you can share your story.

(For Reference) The Apologetic Statement for our Christian Faith:

- God Exists
- Miracles are possible
- The Gospels are reliable accounts of actual events. (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John)
- There, Jesus rose from the dead.
- Therefore, what Jesus said can be trusted.