

# REDEFINED



Thank you for downloading the FREE SAMPLE of Redefined, one of the 4-session studies from YM360's Event Resources line of Bible study curriculum.

Redefined is an amazing resource for your youth ministry events. By leading your students through Redefined, you'll not only challenge them to know God on a deeper level, but you'll also equip them to do it long after your event is over.

Before jumping into this sample, make sure you check out all the fantastic features that YM360 Event Resources puts at your fingertips. There is nothing like it anywhere...

## WHAT YOU'LL FIND IN THIS SAMPLE:

- A Sample of a Small Group Lesson Plan
- A Sample of the Student Book
- Redefined Small Group Overviews

Did you know that the Redefined Small Group Content is just one of the many components you have access to with the purchase of a study from YM360's Event Resources?

## WE GIVE YOU ALL THE TOOLS YOU NEED TO CREATE TRANSFORMATIONAL YOUTH MINISTRY EVENTS. LOOK AT THESE INCREDIBLE FEATURES INCLUDED WITH YOUR PURCHASE:

- Large Group Speaker Outlines
- Large Group Videos
- Large Group Motion Background/Loop
- Large Group PowerPoint Slides
- Promotional Tools: Web Banner/Poster Files
- Promotional Tools: Promotional Video
- Parent Resources

We're committed to making your youth ministry event exceptional. And as always, if you have any questions, you can email us at [customer@ym360.com](mailto:customer@ym360.com) or give us a call at 1-888-969-6360.

Your YM360 Team



## REDEFINING WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST

### SESSION 1: GOD REDEFINES OUR EXISTENCE

**What we want students to learn:** We were created by God so that our lives may glorify Him, and bring us great joy as a result.

**Main Scripture:** Genesis 1:26-28, Isaiah 43:6-7, Revelation 4:11, Psalm 84:1-2, 10

**Session Snapshot:** God is the Creator. He made all things; everything in the heavens and earth exists because God spoke it into existence. That includes us. The Bible tells us that God made us as the crowning achievement of His creative efforts, the only aspect of His creation made in His image. When God created man and woman, He stepped back and said it wasn't just good, but "very good." But the question is: why did God create us? God created us to bring glory to Himself. This is a radical redefinition of our understanding of our existence, especially in a world that says the glorification of self is a goal to be attained. This session will help your students grasp the truth behind their life and to explore the joy they can experience as a result of understanding this truth.

---

#### BIBLE BACKGROUND

*The Bible Background is a focused, brief overview of some of the background info for the main passage you will be teaching.*

#### TEACHER PREP VIDEO

Each Small Group Leader's Guide comes with a **Teacher Prep Video**. These are simply short videos designed to help you grasp the main point of the lesson as you prepare to teach.

To access your *Redefined* lesson 1 Teacher Prep Video, login to your account, navigate to your Small Group lesson 1 and click on the "Background" tab in your Lesson Manager. You'll notice the Teacher Prep Video at the top of the Lesson Manager window.

#### THE DETAILS

##### Genesis

- **Author:** While there's no specific author named within the text, Moses is the accepted author for Genesis, with some editing and additions done after his death (such as the account of his death!).
- **Time frame:** It's difficult to establish with any certainty a date for the completion of the Pentateuch (a name for the first five books of the Bible—including Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy—of which Genesis is a part). Most of the material originated from Moses himself, and depending on the date of the Exodus (which is also not known for sure), that would make the date for the writing of Genesis sometime in the 1400s or the 1200s BC.
- **Purpose:** Genesis details the earliest history of our world, including creation and Adam and Eve's fall. It also focuses on the emergence of Israel, not only as God's people, but as the group God would work through to bring redemption to the world.

##### Isaiah

- **Author:** Isaiah, son of Amoz wrote the book of Isaiah.
- **Time frame:** The events of Isaiah occurred between 740 and 681 B.C., though some parts of the book would have been constructed at a later date.
- **Purpose:** The purpose of this book was to call the nation of Judah back to God, to warn of coming judgment, and to tell of God's ultimate salvation through the Messiah.



## REDEFINING WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST

### SESSION 1: GOD REDEFINES OUR EXISTENCE

#### Revelation

- **Author:** The writer of Revelation identifies himself as John four times. Scholars agree that it is most likely John the Apostle, son of Zebedee, one of Jesus' most beloved disciples.
- **Time frame:** Revelation was written toward the end of John's life somewhere between 90 and 95 AD.
- **Purpose:** The purpose of Revelation was to reveal the fullness of Christ's identity and to provide hope for suffering Believers at the time who were encountering grave persecution and suffering. Today it gives us hope of what is to come, as well as a stark warning of the battle that rages until Christ returns.

#### Psalms

- **Author:** God inspired various authors to write a majority of the Psalms in their era, including seventy-three by David, twelve by Asaph, eleven by the Korahites and two by Solomon. Heman, Ethan, and Moses each wrote one, while the authorship of fifty other psalms remains unknown.
- **Time frame:** The Psalms were written during different eras of Israel's history, spanning from 1100 BC (i.e., Psalm 29, 68) to 400 BC (i.e., Psalm 119).
- **Purpose:** The Psalms are inspired by God to poetically reflect humanity's journey with Him. Each psalm serves a different purpose, such as a personal or communal lament, hymn, song, reflection or declaration. Many of these were set to music and intended to be shared publicly, even when sharing a revealing confession (i.e., Psalm 51).

#### THE MAIN POINT

You'll use the Genesis passage to show students that God created man and woman and made them in His image. You'll then show students that God created humankind so that our lives would bring Him glory by using the Isaiah and Revelation passages. Finally, using Psalm 84, you'll lead students to understand that we find happiness and joy when we live for God's glory.

#### The Takeaway

The takeaway here is for students to grasp that the "why" of their purpose for being on earth is not defined by the world, friends, family, or even themselves. We want students to understand that God is glorified by their existence and that He has deemed it "good."

#### THE TAKEAWAY

We all must choose what we will turn our heart's affection toward. Will we choose the world or God? Will we imitate God or evil? What will our lives conform to? The world around us or God and His ways? This first session will help introduce this concept to your students and challenge them to pursue God with undivided affection.

---

#### LESSON PLAN

The **Lesson Plan** contains three elements: an introductory activity called **Getting Started**; the Bible study section called **Digging In**; and an application-focused segment called **Wrapping Up**.

#### GETTING STARTED

---

- Student Book Pages



## REDEFINING WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST

### SESSION 1: GOD REDEFINES OUR EXISTENCE

- o This lesson will utilize pages 8-12 in the **Redefined** Student Book.
- o This activity will use page 8-9.

- **Additional Instructions**

- o None

FIRST, welcome students to their first Small Group Session. If everyone in the group doesn't already know each other, take a moment to have people introduce themselves. Explain to them that you're going to spend a lot of time together this week, so you want to do a little more to get to know each other. Have students go around and share what their favorite movie is and why. Then, have them turn to page 8 in their Student Books. Have a student read the session intro on page 8.

THEN, direct students' attention to page 9 to the section titled "The Big Why" and encourage students to divide into groups of three or four. When they have done so, ask the questions in order, allowing for individual groups to share their answers aloud with the rest of the group. Let the students get comfortable with each other and you. Don't limit their answers; encourage them to have fun. After each question, award one group the winner for that question based on whatever criteria you choose to use (have fun with this too; the more arbitrary the better).

FINALLY, when you've finished, say something like:

- **As we get older, we begin to become more curious about who we are and the world in which we live. We start to ask the big questions: Who am I? Who created me? What is my purpose? And we always land on the Big Why: why am I here? These can seem like the most significant questions we will ever face, as if our hearts cannot be still until we know the answers to them. How we answer these questions will define how we live our lives: what we believe about God, our world, and ourselves. It's possible you've already spent time with these big questions. We're going to take some time in this session today and hopefully redefine what those answers mean for how we see God and ourselves.**

If there are no more comments or questions, transition to the **Digging In** section of your lesson.

## DIGGING IN

- **Student Book Pages**

- o This activity will utilize pages 10-11 in the **Redefined** Student Book.

- **Additional Instructions**

- o You'll want to make sure students have something to write with, and a Bible or Bible app.

FIRST, instruct students to look at the prompt at the top of page 10. Instruct them to consider what their own "why" questions are. Instruct them to use the section entitled "My Why Questions" on page 10 to write these down. Encourage them to dig deep and ask some questions that have been nagging at them below the surface. After a minute or two, ask students if they would like to share.

Then, after students have had the opportunity to share, say something like:

- **We all have these questions swirling around inside us. We want to know the why's and how's and who's that make**



## REDEFINING WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST

### SESSION 1: GOD REDEFINES OUR EXISTENCE

up our existence. Today we're going to try to get a handle on a few of these questions. Let's open up our Bibles to Genesis 1:26-28.

THEN, read or have students read aloud Genesis 1:26-28. When you've finished, ask for a summary of the verses you just read, in their own words. Then ask:

- **What has just happened in the verses right before these?**
  - Answer: God has been creating the world and everything in it.
- **What do you think it means that God created man and woman in His image and His likeness?**
  - Answers may vary, but help students to see that it's not just about how we look. As image-bearers of God, humans have inherent worth and can reflect God's characteristics. When God made us in His image, He gave us our ability to reason, emotions, a sense of morality, and a self-realization that animals and plants do not share. We are not God, but above all His other creations, we have a unique relationship with Him.
- **How does being made in God's image define our unique relationship with Him?**
  - Answers may vary. But help students see that we were created to interact with God differently than animals, plants, etc.
- **What does God do in these verses immediately after creating man and woman?**
  - Answer: He blesses them and gives them purpose (have dominion or rule over the earth, and be fruitful and multiply).
- **Based on these verses alone, do you get answers to any of your "Why" questions?**
  - Answers may vary.

Before moving on, help drive home the point of your discussion. Consider saying something like:

- **It's probably not a surprise to you that we answered the question of "Where do I come from?" with the seemingly simple answer: "from God." But it's important to root our existence correctly: because our understanding of who we are and why we are here flows from this. If we start here, we can redefine the answers to some of our big "why" questions.**

NEXT, before you read the next two passages, pause for a moment. Ask something like:

- **When we say that someone does something for their glory, what do we mean?**
  - Answers may vary, but you want to help your students see that when someone does something for glory, it means they want the attention, or the praise, of the focus to be on them.
- **What are some examples of something someone may do for their glory?**
  - Answers will vary. Affirm and correct students' responses as needed.
- **If I told you that a friend of yours was doing something, maybe one of the things we just mentioned, for his or her glory, what would your response be: positive or negative? And why?**
  - Answers will vary.

Then, ask one student to read Isaiah 43:6-7 and another to read Revelation 4:11. Instruct students to look at page 11 and circle or highlight the times they see the word "glory" or "worthy." When you've finished, lead students in brief discussion. Ask:

- **In the Isaiah passage, who is speaking?**
  - Answer: God.
- **When you consider the idea that God created humankind for His glory, what are your reactions?**



## REDEFINING WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST

### SESSION 1: GOD REDEFINES OUR EXISTENCE

- Answers may vary, and while you don't want to necessarily lead students to take this response, if they are honest, there may be a small part of them that feels like God is needy or selfish. Regardless of what reaction they express, encourage them to hold this line of thinking for a moment.
- **In the Revelation passage, who is speaking?**
  - Answer: The heavenly hosts.
- **What is God's glory and why is God so obsessed with it?**
  - Answer: God's glory is the manifestation of His holiness. God's glory is so good, so beautiful, and so holy that it's not selfish of Him to create things for His glory. He is the only one worthy of the glory due to Him.

Wrap up this section by saying something like:

- **So, let's combine these two thoughts. In our finite minds and sinfulness, some people may be tempted to think that it's weird that God created us for His glory. We think this because it can often be a little weird, and even sinful, when humans do things for their glory. That's because we are not worthy of worship. We're not worthy of glory. But God is! He's the only one worthy of worship, and the only one whose glory is worth creating creatures for His glory. God is the all-powerful, all-knowing, ever-present Creator of the Universe. Giving Him glory for this fact is the ONLY right response! God alone is worthy of our glory. He deserves nothing less.**

Explain that now you have the answer to another one of your big "why's": why did God create us? But explain that far from leaving us as mere tools for God's glory, there is a ton of fulfillment and purpose wrapped up in the "why."

THEN, have students read Psalm 84:1-2, and verse 10. Lead students in a brief discussion of the verses. Explain that when this psalm was written, the dwelling place of God was the Temple, where His presence resided. The Temple was where the divide between God and humanity was the thinnest, and it was a very sacred space. Tell students that when Jesus died on the cross for our sins, the divide between God and humans was destroyed; through Jesus' death and resurrection, the dwelling place of God is actually with us, through His Spirit. Read Revelation 21:3 to the students and ask them to now consider the psalm through that lens. Ask:

- **What is the psalmist saying when he talks about "the dwelling place" of God?**
  - Answer: He's speaking of the Temple, where the presence of God dwells.
- **Now that we live in a time where Jesus has removed the divide between God and man, where is God's dwelling place?**
  - Answer: In us and with us in the form of His Spirit and among His people, the Church.
- **How does the psalmist describe the feeling of being in the dwelling place of God?**
  - Answers: It's lovely; his soul longs to be there; his heart and flesh sing for joy; it is better to be a doorkeeper in the house of God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- **What do you think it means that it's better to be a doorkeeper in the house of God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked?**
  - Answers will vary, but the point is to show students that it's better to hold a lowly place of service in God's house than to be "free" without Him.
- **How do you think this relates to our Big Why questions?**
  - Answers will vary, but help students conclude that because we were made for God's glory, the only way we can experience true joy is when we live for His glory. Because of our sin nature, we can think that living for God's glory is somehow boring, or that it limits our individuality or freedom. But we find our most authentic selves in the Why of our creation: this is what God made us for, and in



## REDEFINING WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST

### SESSION 1: GOD REDEFINES OUR EXISTENCE

living for His glory is true freedom.

FINALLY, wrap up your time of Bible study by saying something like:

- **We're not going to pretend like answering the Big Why questions in a Bible study of one day is sufficient to satisfy our curiosity and desire to understand the fundamentals of our creation. But hopefully, this has set you on a path to begin to look to Scripture for answers, rather than the world. God is big enough for our questions and doubts, and asking these questions will only deepen our faith and make it more our own. When we know where we come from, why God created us, it will redefine our purpose in life. The joy we experience when we are living in harmony with God, and seeing His glory as our purpose, leads us to overflow with praise and gratitude.**

Ask if anyone has any thoughts or questions, then transition to the **Wrapping Up** portion of your lesson.

#### WRAPPING UP

---

- **Student Book Pages**
  - This activity will utilize page 12 in the **Redefined** Student Book.
- **Additional Instructions**
  - Make sure students have something to write with.

FIRST, instruct students to turn to page 12 in their books. Read the instructions and ask them to walk through the questions and give honest answers. Allow students a few moments to answer the questions privately. When they are finished, ask if anyone wants to share a question they are still struggling with. Offer yourself up to any students who want to dig in deeper after the group dismisses.

FINALLY, wrap up your time together by reminding students that doubts and questions are a part of faith, and that while we may not know all the answers, God is worthy to be trusted and worthy of our worship.

Ask students if they have any questions or additional comments. Inform students of the devotions located on pages 38-45 in their Student Books. Provide them with a schedule or some structure as to when you would like for them to work through them. (The first devotion is on page 38.)

If there are no more questions, close in prayer for your group.



THANKS FOR DOWNLOADING THIS SAMPLE  
OF *REDEFINED* STUDENT BOOK FROM YM360'S  
EVENT RESOURCES LINE OF BIBLE STUDY.

THIS STUDENT BOOK IS THE ROADMAP FOR  
YOUR STUDENTS' EVENT EXPERIENCE.  
HERE ARE JUST A FEW FEATURES:

- 45 full color pages
- Note taking areas for large group sessions
- Interacts with the small group lessons your teachers  
access online
- Features four bonus devotions for use throughout the year
- Biblically solid, culturally relevant, highly interactive

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT  
THIS STUDENT BOOK, OR ANY OTHER YM360  
EVENT RESOURCE, DON'T HESITATE TO CALL US.  
WE'RE HERE TO HELP! 1.888.969.6360



Published by: YM360

NAME

DATE



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Redefined Intro	4
Large Group Session 1 Notes	6
Small Group Session 1 Intro	8
Session 1 Getting Started	9
Session 1 Digging In	10
Session 1 Wrapping Up	12
Large Group Session 2 Notes	14
Small Group Session 2 Intro	16
Session 2 Getting Started	17
Session 2 Digging In	18
Session 2 Wrapping Up	20
Large Group Session 3 Notes	22
Small Group Session 3 Intro	24
Session 3 Getting Started	25
Session 3 Digging In	26
Session 3 Wrapping Up	28
Large Group Session 4 Notes	30
Small Group Session 4 Intro	32
Session 4 Getting Started	33
Session 4 Digging In	34
Session 4 Wrapping Up	36
Redefined Closing	37
Devotion 1	38
Devotion 2	40
Devotion 3	42
Devotion 4	44
About the Author	46

*REDEFINED Student Book*  
©2019 by youthministry360. All rights reserved.

Published by YM360 in the United States of America.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system now known or to be invented, without prior permission in writing from the publisher.

Any reference within this piece to Internet addresses of web sites not under the administration of YM360 is not to be taken as an endorsement of these web sites by YM360; neither does YM360 vouch for their content.

Unless otherwise noted, scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Are you a person who loves routine? Do you count on things to be what you expect them to be? If you get a little flustered when things aren't how they're supposed to be, you're in good company. Most people are this way. We expect the expected, and when it doesn't happen, we get frustrated and confused.

Have you ever had something that genuinely disrupted your expectations? Something so out of the ordinary that it shattered the status quo? It can feel like absolute chaos. Maybe you found yourself not knowing how to respond. It can be a pretty crummy feeling.

But what happens when God is the one doing the disrupting? When that's the case, it can be beautiful chaos.

God redefines everything about our lives. At the heart of what it means to know and experience God is the process of redefinition. God defines what it means to be new. What does this look like? Great question . . .

The content you're going to cover with your group throughout the next few sessions will help you understand exactly what it means to have God redefine you. Get ready, because it's a pretty remarkable journey.

**“BEHOLD, THE FORMER THINGS  
HAVE COME TO PASS, AND NEW  
THINGS I NOW DECLARE; BE-  
FORE THEY SPRING FORTH I  
TELL YOU OF THEM.”**

**ISAIAH 42:9**

# LARGE GROUP NOTES

## SESSION 1

These two pages are designed for you to take notes on during Large Group Sessions. The stuff you're learning will really build on itself over the next few sessions. So even if you're not much of a note taker, you might want to at least jot down what you think is important.

### TRY WRITING DOWN:

- Any specific teaching points
- Verse references for Scripture passages
- Quotes that make you think
- Anything you have a question about

# SMALL GROUP ONE INTRO

Ever spend much time around a three-year-old? Sure, they're cute and all, but hang out with toddlers for very long and you'll start to uncover an unsettling theme to most of their communication: WHY?

Why is the sky blue? Why do birds chirp? Why is cereal crispy? Why do we keep milk cold? Why do we wear socks? Every tiny detail of life must be examined and put under a microscope for a three-year-old. Leave no stone unturned!

As we get older, we get answers to some of these questions, but then . . . we start asking bigger questions. Who is God? Who am I? Why am I here? These questions are at the heart of what it means to be human. We are hard-wired to ask them and it's important for us to understand the answers. But often, before we've even started asking, the world is giving us answers that aren't true.

Today we are going to redefine those answers, starting with the news of who God is and why He created us. The answer is a radical redefinition of our understanding of our existence, especially the midst of a world that tells us that we are here for our own purposes.

In this session, we're going to unpack what it means for our very existence to be defined by the One who made us. Ready? Let's get started.

Split up into two groups. Your leader will read the questions, and you and your group will have 10 seconds to come up with an answer. It can be the actual answer, or something you creatively made up. Your leader can award points based on creativity or facts.

## SMALL GROUP ONE GETTING STARTED

1. WHY ARE CATS SCARED OF CUCUMBERS?

2. WHY DO WE YAWN?

3. WHY IS CAILLOU BALD?

4. WHY ARE FLAMINGOS PINK?

5. WHY ARE MANHOLE COVERS ROUND?

6. WHY DOESN'T MCDONALD'S SELL HOT DOGS?

7. WHY IS BREAD SQUARE?

8. WHY IS KETCHUP FANCY?

9. WHY DO OVERALLS HAVE BELT LOOPS?

10. WHY ARE THERE HOLES IN CRACKERS?



## SMALL GROUP ONE DIGGING IN

Work through the following pages with your group to start thinking about your big 'why' questions.

### MY WHY QUESTIONS

Think about your own big questions about life and existence. Write them down inside the box.



### NEXT, READ GENESIS 1:26-28 WITH YOUR GROUP AND WORK THROUGH THE QUESTIONS BELOW.

1. What has just happened in the verses right before this?
2. What do you think it means that God created man and woman in His image and His likeness?
3. How does being made in God's image define our unique relationship with Him?
4. What does God do in these verses immediately after creating man and woman?
5. Based on these verses alone, do you get answers to any of your Why Questions?

NEXT, READ THE FOLLOWING PASSAGES WITH YOUR GROUP AND CIRCLE OR HIGHLIGHT ANYWHERE YOU SEE THE WORDS "GLORY" OR "WORTHY".

[6] I WILL SAY TO THE NORTH, "GIVE UP, AND TO THE SOUTH, DO NOT WITHHOLD; BRING MY SONS FROM AFAR AND MY DAUGHTERS FROM THE END OF THE EARTH, [7] EVERYONE WHO IS CALLED BY MY NAME, WHOM I CREATED FOR MY GLORY, WHOM I FORMED AND MADE."  
ISAIAH 43:6-7

"WORTHY ARE YOU, OUR LORD AND GOD, TO RECEIVE GLORY AND HONOR AND POWER, FOR YOU CREATED ALL THINGS, AND BY YOUR WILL THEY EXISTED AND WERE CREATED."  
REVELATION 4:11

### NEXT, USE THE SCRIPTURES ABOVE TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS WITH YOUR GROUP:

1. In the Isaiah passage, who is speaking?
2. When you consider the idea that God created humankind for His glory, what are your reactions?
3. In the Revelation passage, who is speaking?
4. What is God's glory and why is He so obsessed with it?

### NOW, READ THE PASSAGE BELOW AND ANSWERS THE QUESTIONS WITH YOUR GROUP:

[1] How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! [2] My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God. [10] For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness. - Psalm 84:1-2, 10

1. What is the psalmist saying when he talks about "the dwelling place" of God?
2. Now that we live in a time where Jesus has removed the divide between God and man, where is God's dwelling place?
3. How does the psalmist describe the feeling of being in the dwelling place of God?
4. What do you think it means that it's better to be a doorkeeper in the house of God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked?
5. How do you think this relates to your Why questions?

## **SMALL GROUP ONE** **WRAPPING UP**

Get by yourself and take a few moments to answer the questions below honestly. You don't have to share these answers with anyone, so try to really look into your heart and give truthful answers, even if they don't seem "right" or "spiritual." If you want, you'll have time to share these with the group, or you can talk privately to a leader about them.

**DO I BELIEVE IN GOD? WHY OR WHY NOT?**

**DO I BELIEVE GOD CREATED ME FOR A PURPOSE? WHY OR WHY NOT?**

**DO I KNOW GOD CARES ABOUT ME? WHY OR WHY NOT?**

**DO I KNOW WHY I AM HERE ON EARTH? WHY OR WHY NOT?**

**"MY SOUL LONGS, YES, FAINTS  
FOR THE COURTS OF THE LORD;  
MY HEART AND FLESH SING FOR  
JOY TO THE LIVING GOD."**

**PSALM 84:2**

# REDEFINED: Redefining Who You Are in Christ

---

## SMALL GROUP OUTLINES

### Session 1: God Redefines Our Existence

**What We Want Students to Learn:** We were created by God so that our lives may glorify Him, and bring us great joy as a result.

**Scripture:** Genesis 1:26-28, Isaiah 43:6-7, Revelation 4:11, Psalm 84:1-2, 10

**Session Snapshot:** God is the Creator. He made all things; everything in the heavens and earth exists because God spoke it into existence. That includes us. The Bible tells us that God made us as the crowning achievement of His creative efforts, the only aspect of His creation made in His image. When God created man and woman, He stepped back and said it wasn't just good, but "very good." But the question is: why did God create us? God created us to bring glory to Himself. This is a radical redefinition of our understanding of our existence, especially in a world that says the glorification of self is a goal to be attained. This session will help your students grasp the truth behind their life and to explore the joy they can experience as a result of understanding this truth.

### Session 2: God Redefines Our Reality

**What We Want Students to Learn:** In Christ, God redefines the reality of our lives, both future, and present.

**Scripture:** James 4:13–14, Ephesians 2:4–10, John 10:10

**Session Snapshot:** We all feel like we are in control of our realities. We put so much into lining up everything in our life "just so," getting it just like we like it. But the truth is that no matter how we shape our reality, we have very little say over what happens. So much of our life is at the risk of variables entirely outside of our control. James says the reality of our lives is that we're like a mist: here today, gone tomorrow. That is true for our reality apart from God. But in Christ, God dramatically redefines our realities. This session will help students see that through the salvation offered by God through faith in the person and work of Jesus, not only do we gain life eternal with God, but we gain a FULL life on this earth.

### Session 3: God Redefines Our Identity

**What We Want Students to Learn:** When we come to saving faith in Jesus, God redefines our identities, adopting us as children into His family.



**Main Scripture:** Romans 8:14-17

**Supplemental Scripture:** John 1:12, Galatians 3:27-28, Ephesians 2:10

**Session Snapshot:** What does it mean to be a part of God's family? When Jesus offers renewal to us, we participate in this new life along with Him. This redefining of our life comes with a readjustment of our identity as sons and daughters of God. Family life comes with perks and responsibilities. When Paul talks about adoption in his letter to the Romans, there was a cancellation of legal relationships; those who were adopted no longer had ties to their old identity. As believers adopted into God's family, we are made new. We are now heirs to an eternal Kingdom, and God redefines what family means to us.

## **Session 4: God Redefines Our Purpose**

**What We Want Students to Learn:** When we come to saving faith in Jesus, God redefines our purposes. Part of our purpose is to share the good news of the love of God with the world.

**Scripture:** 1 Peter 2:9

**Supporting Scripture:** 1 John 4:7-8, Matthew 5:16, John 13:35, John 15:8

**Session Snapshot:** When we know WHO we are in Christ, we get a perspective realignment about our WHY. God created us for His glory, redefining our existence. God called us to Him through Jesus, giving us new life in Christ, redefining our realities. Through His saving grace, God adopts us into His family, redefining our identity. And He doesn't stop there. As people who have been radically transformed by God, we are given a new purpose. Part of this purpose is to share the story of ALL of the amazing gifts of God with those who are far from Him, that they too may experience the redefinition we have known.