



# CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Visible: The New Heart



RENAISSANCE  
CHURCH

## Reflect & Discuss

1. Read Ephesians 4:1-3 aloud in your group.

<sup>1</sup> I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> with all **humility** and **gentleness**, with **patience**, **bearing with one another in love**, <sup>3</sup> making every effort to **maintain the unity of the Spirit** in the **bond of peace**.

- How do you think God has strategically placed Renaissance Church to make Jesus visible?
  - How do you think has God placed you to make Jesus visible (e.g., work, family, neighbors)?
  - With which of the six elements highlighted in Ephesians 4:1-3 have you found God helping you most over the past couple of months? Explain.
  - In which area(s) do you feel you still have the longest way to go? Explain.
2. Christian explained that the heart is the source of the major challenge with walking worthy of our calling. He said that, in ancient writings, the heart stands for the center of the *emotions, intellect, and will*.
    - How would you describe feelings that seem to grow from a “sick heart”?
    - What patterns of thought do you think come from a “heart malfunction”?
    - What behaviors have you seen in your life that result from your “heart” pushing you in the wrong direction?
  3. In Ezekiel 36:26 God promised to remove our heart of stone and replace it with a heart of flesh.

<sup>26</sup> A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

    - Where is your heart stoney?
    - Where do you need God to change you internally?
    - Where is your thinking, feeling, or willing stubborn rather than open to God?

## **Personalize It**

Let's personalize and apply what we've been discussing.

1. Christian gave us some guidance for asking God to transform us so we can become more effective in making Jesus visible.
  - Ask Sincerely
  - Ask Willingly
  - Ask Completely
  - Ask Purely
  - Ask Together

Using this guidance, pray with your group that God would transform us as individuals and as a church so that we will make Christ visible where he has placed us.

2. How else can we pray for you?