

# JOURNEY: LIVING WELL WITH GOD & OTHERS

*"Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well." 1 Thessalonians 2:8*

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS SESSION ONE

*The Journey Within: Hidden Pathways*

1. Is there a certain area of your life where you feel unworthy or that you don't measure up? Do you tend to compare others' strengths with your own perceived weaknesses?

Jesus' disciples struggled with comparisons too. When Jesus reinstated Peter to service after the disciple's public denials, he also indicated the kind of death Peter could anticipate. Peter pointed to John and asked, "Lord, what about him?" only to have Jesus reply, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me." (John 21:21-22).

Share ways that the WITTY principle (*What is that to you?*) can free us to serve when we're tempted to wonder why God might have a different plan for us. Also read Galatians 6:4-6.

2. Are there events in your past that cause painful memories to resurface that cause false shame? Quietly reflect on these, and name them only if you feel it could be helpful to share them with your group. Together, consider the following passages: John 13:3, 17:2; Romans 8:1, 16:20. Share insights on ways that our ties to past pain can be broken as we walk in freedom with Christ, who has authority over everything.
3. Read Deuteronomy 32:4-14 aloud. What are the actions God takes in this passage? List the metaphors used to describe God's redemptive work. How might we see ourselves as the one God found in the wilderness sees us? How do you see his activity in your life right now even in the midst of the challenges you face? Close by offering God your "empty jars" right now in faith that he will supply all you lack.