

# Group Check-In

## Noticing Spiritual Growth

Check in with the group around growing in Christ (remind of purpose to *notice each other's spiritual growth*).

- How have we been intentional this week? Ups and downs?

## Care

Check in with the group on any needs for care and prayer (remind of purpose to *care when tough things happen*)

- How can we support and pray for you? (Write them down!)
- (Re-call any shared items from previous weeks, ask about them)

## Pray

Take a few moments to pray for each other. If group is large and prayer will take too much time with everyone, try splitting into smaller groups.

# Discussion Questions

## Sermon/Scripture Discussion

**1 - Pastor Jonathan preached that God intentionally made us *physical beings*, fusing together our body and spirit at creation (see Gen 2:7).**

- Discuss some of the implications this has for our life. Can we neglect our body without impacting our spirit? Vice-versa?
- If you really took this seriously, how would it change your way of life? (Ex. How you treat your body, how you worship, etc)

**2 - If God is our designer, our identity comes from him.**

- How is this different than the world's view of the source of our identity?
- If we look "inside ourselves" to find our identity, what problems may we encounter? (See Jer 17:9)

**3 - Much of the sermon spoke to "gender dysphoria" (where there is distress due to perceived incongruence between one's biological sex and psychological, emotional gender).**

- Do you—or anyone close to you—struggle with any level of gender dysphoria?
  - Could you/they be succumbing to any gender stereotypes? (Think about the difference between Jacob and Esau; see Gen 25:27)
- What might someone who experiences gender dysphoria be longing for?
  - How is that similar to what we all long for as humans? (Remember Pastor Jonathan's point that we are all broken people)
  - How does the gospel answer that question?

**4 - From a Christian perspective, why does it matter if our gender matches our body? (Think through the implications of being physical creatures, our fused spirit/body nature, who gave us that life, etc)**

- If it matters, should we share our convictions with others? Why or why not?

**5 - We believe we are broken people and yet Jesus still offers us life to the full as we trust *him* with our lives (including our identity).**

- As broken people, how does God treat us? And further, how does God ask us to treat others? (See John 13:34-35)
- Are you willing to enter the messiness of life with others? Even over the “long-haul”?

# Prayer

- Pray for a deeper understanding of the gospel and our own brokenness
- Pray for wisdom, gentleness, and love in all our encounters as God's people to the world
- Thank Jesus for entering into our mess and taking responsibility for our sin so we can have life again