Defining Terms

Restart – Week 2

INTRODUCTION

If your childhood faith hasn’t weathered well during the storms of life you may have to restart your faith. Adults often need to go back and restart their faith. But, starting off with faith as a child is different than starting off with faith as an adult, so we have to begin at a different place. That place is a person, Jesus. We also have to deal with some terms that have cultural baggage. Especially this one: Sin.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think our culture is uncomfortable with the word “sin”?
2. Do you see evidence of sin in the world around us? If so, where?
3. What kind of reaction does the word “sin” stir in you? What do you associate with it?
4. During the message it was mentioned, “Jesus’ agenda in pointing out our sin was not condemnation but restoration.” Is that statement difficult for you to believe? Why or why not?
5. Read Luke 15:11–32. What’s most surprising to you about this parable? How does it challenge the way you view God?
6. Do you resist the idea that you are a sinner? Is there something offensive about that? If so, why? If not, why not?

MOVING FORWARD

Those who knew Jesus best tell us that he is the starting point of faith. He came to bridge the gap created by our sin—not our unintentional mistakes, but our sin. Recognizing our sin paves the way to restoration and redemption.

Jesus isn’t put off by your sin. He’s ready to forgive your sin and restore God’s relationship with you.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. Romans 3:23–24