

Leader Conversation Guide - A Christmas Carol

Main Idea

In the classic story, "A Christmas Carol," Ebenezer Scrooge confronts the devastating implications of a selfish life. Pairing this week's message with clips from the 2009 animated movie, Pastor Chris urged us to take inventory of our hearts and our lives. The condition of our hearts affects everything around us and will ultimately determine the outcome of our lives. We need to understand how our past has shaped the way we see the world and how it has caused us to live in the present. This awareness will allow us to make adjustments so that we can live with purpose for the future. Let's zoom out today to see the big picture of our lives, ask God to use this new perspective to change us, and begin to live a life that matters for eternity.

Make It Practical

- Consider how your past has affected the current condition of your heart. If you have wounds from the past that have not healed, make plans to join a Freedom Group when Small Groups begin next semester.
- Intentionally seek out ways to serve the people around you. Be aware of the needs of others, and do what you can to help.
- Live with God's purpose for your life in mind. Consider the legacy you want to leave behind one day, and let that vision for the future guide your decision-making every day

"Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life."

Psalm 139:23-24

Talk About It

- 1. How is your heart? What is primarily motivating the choices you're making in your life?
- 2. If you looked at your life today from a birds-eye view, what would you see? What characteristics currently mark your life?
- 3. What do you think is God's purpose for your life? What steps can you take today towards fulfilling that purpose in the future?

"GOD SEES YOU, AND HE WILL ALWAYS SEND A WAY TO REACH YOUR HEART."

Prayer

Father, thank You for loving us regardless of our past or the current condition of our hearts. Make our hearts pure today, and give us Your perspective on our lives. Help us make the most of our lives, knowing that our time on earth is short. Thank You for giving us an opportunity to start again today. Help us make a difference in the lives of others, for Your glory. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Leader Tips

Encourage your group members to attend a Freedom Small Group next semester. Freedom will provide an incredible opportunity for them to examine the current condition of their hearts and heal from the past.