

# TASTE & SEE: WK 6 HANDOUT

## CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP

- Have you ever been wronged by someone who came back and made it right? If you're able, tell the story.
  - Was it easy for you to forgive? Did it involve letting go of a demand for justice?
  - How did it feel to reconcile? How is that relationship now?

## MAGNIFY NARRATIVE CONFESSION OF FAITH: SELECTIONS

### REDEMPTION

"We believe that God has **not abandoned** his creation to sin's consequences of destruction and decay but is actively **redeeming** it."

### JESUS CHRIST

"By the power of the Spirit, Jesus submitted himself fully to the Father in obedience, unlike Adam, Israel and the rest of humanity. He was obedient in life, even unto death on a cross, and his blood **atoned** for our sins in our place and on our behalf. He arose bodily and triumphantly over Satan, sin and death. Jesus then ascended to heaven where he reigns at the right hand of the Father. He is **restoring** the reign of God on earth as it is in heaven through the work of the Spirit, whom he poured out on the church at Pentecost. . . . By faith, we participate in the blessings promised to Abraham, enter into the New Covenant inaugurated by Christ and become representatives of God to the world. We are **adopted** into the family of God and **sealed** into the body of Christ."

### QUESTIONS:

- What does Jesus's life and ministry reveal about God's character?
- How can a good and just God be merciful and patient?

## TASTE & SEE

**READ:** Numbers 25:1–11

### QUESTIONS

- 1) What did Israel do to provoke God? (v1–3; 6 & 8)
- 2) What punishments did God think were warranted here? (v4–5)
  - a) See also verse 9 for an additional consequence.
- 3) What does this scene reveal about God’s character?
- 4) Does God’s reaction seem extreme to you? If God is perfectly good and you are not, who should you trust to judge the situation correctly?
- 5) How might a just judge evaluate your life, if it were all laid open before him?

**READ:** Ephesians 2:1–10

- 6) What verdict did our lives demand? (v1–3)
- 7) How did God respond to our sins? (v4–6)
- 8) What is God accomplishing through this response? (v7)
- 9) What did you do to earn this response? (v8–9)
- 10) What is our appropriate response to God’s gift? (v10)

### CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK:

*Memorize* Ephesians 2:8–10 (or at least write it down and put it somewhere you can see each day).

*Pray* for at least one of the guys in your group each day over the things he shared relating to this verse in his life.