

# 1/29/17 | FINDING YOUR WAY BACK TO GOD:

## The Awakening to Life



*"For this son of mine was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found."* —Luke 15:24a | NASB

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. What changes, if any, have you already seen in yourself during this study? What changes do you hope to see for yourself in the future?
2. Consider the definition on the right. What does it mean to have life in God?
3. Which Bible verse would you pick to best describe "life in Christ"?
4. Describe what each action looks like for you, and explain how it sustains your walk with God. If it does not, what do you think is preventing it? Do you think God has equipped you to be more involved?
  - Bible and prayer devotional time
  - Ministry or service
  - Church family worship
  - Small group meetings
5. Reconciled (Greek *katallasso*) means things like "to return in favor with" and "ceases to be angry with another and receives him into favor" and "grant favor anew." Compare *reconciled* in Romans 5:10 and 1 Corinthians 7:11.

*This life (in Jesus) is nearly synonymous with entering into the kingdom of God and experiencing the restoration of the divine-human relationship intended in creation ... Life in the New Testament, beginning with Jesus, predominantly has a metaphysical and spiritual meaning, an indestructible quality, which supersedes physical death and the grave.*  
—Shoemaker, Biblestudytools.com

How does being reconciled to God change our relationship with Him?

## **Read Luke 15:24**

6. In what sense was the son “dead” and “lost”? In what sense is he now “alive” and “found”?

## **Read Colossians 3:3-4, Galatians 2:20 and John 5:24**

7. Are these extremes appropriate metaphors?
8. Why would the Bible use such dramatic contrasts to describe changes in believers?

## **Read Romans 6:1-13, 2 Corinthians 5:16-18 and Ephesians 4:22-24**

9. How are we new when we are reconciled to God through Christ?
10. How does baptism represent this new life in Christ?
11. What is so important about dying to sin?
12. How has your life changed since coming to life in God?
13. What can you do to “lay aside the old self” and “put on the new self”?
14. What is one piece of encouragement/advice (or verse) for someone who is just awakening to life in God?

## **TAKEAWAY:**

What is your NEXT STEP in finding your way back to God?

Pray this prayer: *“God, if you are real, make yourself real to me. Awaken in me the confidence that I can live a brand-new life.”*