Transformed, Not Conformed: Red Church

Ephesians 2:11-18 Life Group Questions – January 21, 2018

Connect

Go around and share the "in-groups" that you have been part of. Try to have each person list 3-5.

Study

- 1. Did being part of the "in-group" you mentioned in the Connect Question lead to an implicit or explicit bias towards others in "out-groups"? Even if you did not act outwardly, how did you think about the "out-group"?
- 2. We all have groups we view as "out-groups" in our lives. What are some "out-groups" for you right now? (This is a hard question to answer; we want to be vulnerable and honest with ourselves and each other. Handle this with grace and honesty as you share and listen.)
- 3. **Read Ephesians 2:11-18**. How does it affect you to remember your situation before you knew Christ (2:11-12)? What thoughts or emotions are evoked?
- 4. What practical things can you do each day to remember?
- 5. **Read Ephesians 2:13-18** again. What stands out to you in this good news? Why does that stand out to you?
- 6. **Read 2 Cor. 5:16**. What does it mean in your own words to be a reconciler? Think about the "out-groups" you mentioned above. How can you practically be a reconciler with them?
- 7. Individually, is there a step that the Lord brought to mind since Sunday a step to take to be a reconciler?
- 8. As a group, is there a step the Lord is asking you to take to be reconcilers together? Is there a way to get proximate together?

Pray – suggestion: break up in smaller groups for this prayer exercise.

- 1. Spend time thanking God for His saving grace. Spend a moment remembering where God brought you from *from alienated to brought near.*
- 2. Spend time humbly repenting from dividing people into "in-groups" and "out-groups".
- 3. Ask God how you can get proximate.