

# Discussion Guide

Use the following questions for your Community Group discussions. It is not required that all will be used. Be sensitive to the flow of conversation and the leading of the Holy Spirit.



## Part 1: Significance

**Warm Up Question:** Who or what is significant (important) to you?

*[family, friends, money, God, health, Pastor, mom, dad, boss, self, ministry, etc.]*

**ONLINE GROUPS:** *Instruct group members to type their answers in the chat box and then read some or all of them out loud to the group since many will be repeated answers.*

### DISCUSSION

All that mattered to Jesus Christ was doing the will of his Father. That's what was important to Him. Let's consider Pastor's question, "What would you think if I said to you, 'You are the complete package?'" Let's respond:

1. Do you believe you are the complete package? Why or why not?
2. How does knowing or believing that you are a complete package help you--in your relationships?

*At your workplace? [more forgiving of others because you forgive yourself, not so quick to assume the worst of someone or yourself, etc. more productive, less likely to underperform or build walls for your insecurities, etc.]*

**... AND MOST IMPORTANTLY How does knowing you are a complete package help you in your Christian walk and witness (ministry, sharing gospel)?** *[less self-condemnation, relying on God instead of self to find value, more ready and willing to tell others about Christ, less fear of failure or rejection, etc.]*

3. How could doubting this fact hurt you? *[opposite effects of those listed above--less forgiving, more accusatory, defensive, build walls, isolation, second-guessing call, etc.]*

Mark 8:31 speaks to how Jesus would suffer and be rejected, and Hebrews 4:15 affirms that He understands our weaknesses and testings but didn't sin.

1. How did Jesus suffer? How was He rejected? *[by peers, crucifixion, personal loss of friends, family, mocking, beating, deceit, loneliness, hunger, thirst, etc.]*
2. How is he rejected today? *[neglect to pray, read His word, rejection, mocking, etc.]*

1 Peter 2:4 describes how Jesus understood fully who He was and from where He derived His importance.

1. What makes us feel important? *[professional success, praise from parents, teachers, peers, awards, the Word of God, ministry, when we bring someone to the Lord, etc.]*

2. What makes you feel less important? *[by a parent, friend, spouse, employer, God, when your idea is rejected, skipped over for a promotion, didn't get the part in the play or make the school team, college, bad grade on paper, etc.]*
3. Why (to questions 1 and 2) do these make you feel important or less important?

### Our position in Christ...The COMPLETE PACKAGE

Colossians 2:9 describes the fullness of God--deity and humanity--alive in Jesus. The next verse says, "You are complete in Him." Consider Pastor's statement: "His fullness is the root of our completion."

1. Why is it so important to get this? *[direct answers given by Pastor: to function as a healthy body, to exercise God-given gifts, to be disciple makers, to be blessed]*
2. Where are you on *getting this*? On a scale of 5--*I GOT THIS* to 1--*Yeah right!* . . . Are you experiencing feelings of rejection now? Do you accept yourself? Why or why not?

*"Rejection starts with whether we accept or reject ourselves." –Pastor Reeve*

Consider the Evidence of Self-Rejection (from Pastor's teaching and website group resource).

- Inability to Trust God (Ephesians 2:10; Colossians 2:10; Psalm 139:14)
- Over-Attention on Clothes (Matthew 6:25-34)
- Excessive Shyness (I Samuel 9 and 10)
- Difficulty in Loving Others (Matthew 19:19)
- Self-Criticism (Isaiah 45:9)
- Comparison to Others (Romans 9:20; 2 Corinthians 10:12)
- Floating Bitterness (Ephesians 5:29)
- Perfectionism (Philippians 4:10-13)
- Attitudes of Superiority (1 Corinthians 4:6, 7)
- Awkward Attempts to Hide Unchangeable Defects (2 Corinthians 12:9)
- Extravagance (Luke 12:15)
- Wrong Priorities (Galatians 6:4)

Which of these are active in your life now? *[share examples if appropriate]*

How can we deal with our own self-rejection however it is appearing? *[scripture, prayer, renewing and replacing thoughts in a Biblical not self-help guru way]*

How can we heal? *[it's not what others say about you, it's what God has already declared, the healing power of Holy Ghost]*

Revisit an earlier question from today's discussion: Do you believe you are the complete package? What can you change in your daily life to combat any unbelief of this statement or to build your faith in this statement? *[consider the evidence of self-rejection as starting point for action]*

Remember Paul's charge to us: You can be confident that "He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ."

**LEADERS: Please share your group's testimonies and/or plans with Shalon Clevenger, Group Team Lead [[groups@abundantlifebaltimore.com](mailto:groups@abundantlifebaltimore.com)]; Slack #small-groups, 443-309-1429]**