TREES OF LIFE

GO FURTHER | MARCH 6 | MISSING THE TREES FOR THE FOREST

START TALKING | ASK A QUESTION TO GET YOUR GROUP THINKING.

- WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SPRINGTIME ACTIVITY: WALKING, HIKING, GARDENING, ETC.? WHY?
- WHAT SPIRITUAL PRACTICE DO YOU INTENTIONALLY BUILD INTO YOUR LIFE TO GROW CLOSER TO JESUS: WORSHIP, PRAYER, SCRIPTURE READING, SERVICE, ETC.? HOW DOES IT HELP YOU CONNECT WITH GOD?

START THINKING | ASK A QUESTION TO GET YOUR GROUP THINKING.

- Read Psalm 1:1-3
- What words or phrases stand out to you?
- Who do those who follow the Lord not follow?
- How do they connect with the law of the Lord? What is the difference between prayer and meditation?
- What do the trees do in this passage? What does it look like to bear fruit and to prosper for God in our own lives?

START SHARING | CHOOSE A QUESTION TO CREATE OPENNESS.

- Read Genesis 1:1-2:3
- What words or phrases stand out to you?
- What day do the trees enter creation? What is their role?
- In this Scripture, this creation poem, note the symmetry of actions between day 1 and 4, 2 and 5, 3 and 6.
- God sets the foundation and then causes life to emerge; God intentionally creates toward the purpose of life.
- What does it look like in our life to respond to God's intentionality in us? Where we serve out of our gifts and talents is the intentionality God has placed in us.

START PRAYING | BE BOLD AND PRAY WITH POWER.

• Loving God, we thank you for placing markers, trees, all over our lives and world to remind us of your love, care and provision for each one of us. May we see your intentionality all over our lives and respond when we call us to act. Where we see places our gifts meet the needs of the world, may we boldly act in your name, to bring hope, healing and wholeness to all. In Jesus' resurrected name we pray, Amen.

START DOING | COMMIT TO A STEP AND LIVE IT OUT THIS WEEK.

• For more on trees as marker for God's love, check out this 5-day reading plan: https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/14557-reforesting-faith