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Space is unsearchable.  
When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are **mindful** of him, and the son of man that you **care** for him? *Psalm 8:3-4*  
To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the **unsearchable** riches of Christ... *Ephesians 3:8*  
For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible... all things were created **through him** and **for him**. *Colossians 1:16-17*

Jesus brings knowledge of reality.  
"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is **at hand**." *Matthew 4:17*  
So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is **unseen**, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is **eternal**. *2 Corinthians 4:18*

- The unseen kingdom offers power.  
The men were amazed and asked, "What **kind of man** is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!" *Matthew 8:27*
- The unseen kingdom provides peace.  
"But seek first the **kingdom of God** and his **righteousness**, and all these things will be added to you." *Matthew 6:33*
- The unseen kingdom brings joy.  
"These things I have spoken to you, that my **joy** may be in you, and that your **joy** may be full." *John 15:11*  
*"If I find in myself desires which nothing in this world can satisfy, the only logical explanation is that I was made for another world." C.S. Lewis*
- The unseen kingdom brings love.  
"The Son of Man has come **eating and drinking**, and you say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'" *Luke 7:34*  
"Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" And Jesus answered them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. *Luke 5:30-31*  
But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. *Romans 5:8*

WEEKLY BIBLE READING

ONE YEAR NEW TESTAMENT	SUNDAY 2 Cor. 12:1-10	MONDAY 2 Cor. 12:11-21	TUESDAY 2 Cor. 13:1-14
this week	september 11	september 12	september 13
WEDNESDAY Galatians 1:1-24	THURSDAY Galatians 2:1-16	FRIDAY Galatians 2:17-3:9	SATURDAY Galatians 3:10-29
september 14	september 15	september 16	september 17
WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE 2 Corinthians 4:18			



### For Group Discussion

Answer these questions prior to your Small Group meeting this week.

#### Introduction

While Jesus was on this earth, He provided a level of power that would validate His message, and show others that the Kingdom of God was at hand. He also provided a level of peace and joy through the words He spoke – the kind of peace and joy that everyone seeks. Jesus was also quick to show love to those who were considered unlovable – eating and drinking with tax collectors and sinners. Today, it is our responsibility to take the power, peace, joy, and love of Jesus to those who need it most. We are called to share the unsearchable riches of Christ with those around us.

#### Discussion Questions

1. Everyone has a perception of reality. How do our perceptions usually take shape? How has your perception of reality changed or evolved over the years? What factors caused it to change?

Read 2 Corinthians 4:18 and 5:7. As believers in Christ we are called to base our lives and choices on unseen things. What is the value of living in this spiritual reality?

2. The power of Jesus causes things to change, and those changes validate His message. Read Matthew 8:23-27. What kind of change has the power of Jesus brought about in your life? How does that change validate the message of Jesus to others?

Is there an area of your life where the power of Jesus could make changes right now and validate His message in a powerful way? If so, what is it, and how would this change in your life speak to others about Jesus?

3. Living a life in the reality of God’s kingdom offers complete levels of peace and joy. How do people find peace and joy outside the Kingdom of God – where do they turn?

Read Matthew 6:31-33 and John 15:11. As believers in Christ, peace and joy are available...but not automatic. Where are you having difficulty finding peace and

### Small Group Questions Continued

joy in your life right now? Share some things we can do to cultivate the peace and joy of living in the Kingdom.

4. Jesus constantly showed His love for all people. Read Luke 5:29-31 and Romans 5:8. How do the messages of these passages challenge you as a believer in Christ? What kind of responsibilities do we have as believers to continue to love people the way Jesus loved?

What specific steps will you take this week to demonstrate the power, peace, joy, and love of Jesus through your life?

#### OUTREACH: GROUPS IN ACTION

##### OUR CHURCH

Do you have a heart for children or babies? Volunteers are needed in our nursery and Children’s Ministry. Contact Shay Toombs at [stoombs@eclife.org](mailto:stoombs@eclife.org) for more information.

##### OUR COMMUNITY

Habitat for Humanity needs our help. A new build in Bargsville will begin September 14 and there are several days Emmanuel has been asked to help. If you are interested, contact Kerry Jones at [kjones@eclife.org](mailto:kjones@eclife.org).

##### OUR WORLD

Check [eclife.org](http://eclife.org) for dates to engage in upcoming trips to work with our ministry partners in Haiti, Nicaragua, and Colombia. If you can’t go, commit to pray for others, sponsor a member by helping financially, and/or write letters of encouragement for the members going. The next team is traveling to Nicaragua in October.

#### Action Step

Fill in the blanks below for this upcoming week.

My action steps are \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

I’m accountable for \_\_\_\_\_, and their action steps are \_\_\_\_\_.

My memory verse is \_\_\_\_\_.

This coming week, I’m praying for: