

## Conversation Starters

- Do you have any biblical characters that you admire?
- What characteristics do you admire about them?

## Discuss

**We all have a foundational calling in life. The primary call on our life is about being not doing – who we are. First, we are called to be a saint. A saint literally means to be “set apart” and freed from the consequences of sin in your life. No matter where we have been or what we have done in our past, when we choose to follow Christ, God adopts us to his family and we become a saint in his eyes.**

*Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints in Ephesus... (Eph. 1:1a NIV)*

- Have you ever thought about the person you are becoming?
- Have you ever considered yourself a saint?
- How does God calling you to be saint impact how you view yourself?

**Our calling as a saint not only affects us positionally according to where we stand with God, but functionally. As a saint, we are to engage in continued growth and application to becoming more like a saint or more like Christ. We are to allow Christ to be our leader, seeking to obey his instruction for each area of our life.**

*Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. (1 Corinthians 9:24-26 NIV)*

- How are you training to become more of a saint?
- How are you allowing God to lead your life?
- Is there a next step you need to take in your relationship with God now?

**We are also called to be a soldier. We are in a real battle for good versus evil in this world, whether we realize it or not. We can fight by doing as Jesus did; by working now to rid the world of evil (free the oppressed, serve those in need), and sharing our faith with other people to invite them into a relationship with Christ. That is what we are called to do.**

*Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. (Eph. 6:10-13 NIV)*

*Because we understand our fearful responsibility to the Lord, we work hard to persuade others. God knows we are sincere, and I hope you know this, too...And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So we are Christ's ambassadors;*

*God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" (2 Corinthians 5:11,18b-20 NLT)*

*How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? (Romans 10:14 NLT)*

- Do you view life from the perspective that we are in the midst of a spiritual battle?
- How are you fighting to serve those in need in our world?
- Are you investing in relationships with people that do not know Christ?

## Next Steps

Have you decided to accept God's call on your life to be a saint? What about a soldier? Spend some time this week considering how you can take steps into fulfilling those roles in your life now.

Consider these opportunities:

### Exploring the Bible

**When:** Every Monday, from 04/29/2019 to 05/20/2019, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

**Location:** North Charlotte Campus, 8335 Browne Road Charlotte, Charlotte, NC US 28269

**Registration:** <https://www.mecklenburg.org/event/855439-2019-04-29-exploring-the-bible/>

### Baptism

**When:** May 18-19

**Location:** Every Meck Campus

**Registration:** [www.mecklenburg.org/baptism](http://www.mecklenburg.org/baptism)

### Missions 2.0

**When:** Each week at Meck

**Location:** Charlotte and Around the World

**Registration:** [www.mecklenburg.org/missions](http://www.mecklenburg.org/missions)

## Further Reflection

*Read 1 Corinthians 9:24-26; Ephesians 6:10-18; 2 Corinthians 5:11,18b-20; Romans 10:14*

## Pray

God, you are the creator of the universe and possess wisdom that we cannot fathom. Thank you for creating us and the relationship you offer us. We are not perfect and do not always see ourselves the way you see us nor live as you desire for us to. Help us to realize and know your calling on us to be saints and soldiers, and guide us to fulfilling those roles more.