



Whatever you've done, whatever you've experience, whatever others have told you or you've told yourself. No matter how far you think you've gone, no matter what hour you think it is, no matter how much water has gone under the bridge—your life can be changed. You can find meaning and purpose. You can find hope and a future. Your story can be different. It can be better. It can be transformed. God promises so.

These questions are intended to deepen your experience of the message. Use them for your personal or family study time, or with an open Bible as you share the good news with your neighbor.

Group Introduction: Read or Watch how a caterpillar turns into a butterfly.

Book Recommendation: Max Lucado, *Six Hours One Friday* (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, reprinted in 2012)

METAMORPHOSIS. "A change of the form or nature of a thing or person into a completely different one, by natural or supernatural means." Imagine if a butterfly were to think of itself as nothing more than "a worm with wings"! Discuss the impact a "complete change" in who we are would have on how we see ourselves.

THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE. Read **John 11:21-26**. Put yourself in Martha's shoes. Why would she think death means its too late? Now consider her statement that "even now" God will do whatever Jesus asks. What is she expecting? Follow up: Read 1 Corinthians 15:50-54. What does it mean that at the resurrection we will be "changed"? Is that good news?

BORN AGAIN. Read **John 3:1-5**. How does the movie Regarding Henry fit with the idea that we must be "born again" to experience new life? Follow up: Read **2 Corinthians 5:17**. What does "all things are new" mean?

YOUR LIFE IS NOT FUTILE. Read **Mark 5:1-20**. What was "life" like for this man? Why is it fitting that he lives among the cemetery caves? How would others have considered him? How does Jesus offer him new life? What new mission does Jesus give this man? Reflect on Max Lucado's line "your life is not futile." Discuss your own story.

YOUR FAILURES ARE NOT FATAL. Read **John 18:15-27; John 21:1-19; 2 Peter 2:1**. Look for the phrase "charcoal fire" or "fire of coals" in John 18 and John 21. What happens in each incident when Peter smells the charcoal fire? How does Jesus reframe Peter's story? Reflect on Max's line "your failures are not fatal." Discuss your own story.

YOUR FUTURE IS NOT FINAL. Read **Luke 23:32-43**. How does the bandit on the cross view his own story? How does Jesus offer him a better future? Think about Edwin Booth's story and reflect on Max's line "your future is not final." Discuss your own story.