

LifeGroup Leader Guide: Fixing the Glitch

Creekside Church

20260322

Big Idea

Jesus didn't just forgive sin—He *reversed the Fall*.

He lived the life we failed to live and died the death we deserved, so we can move from “*in Adam*” to “*in Christ*”—from broken identity to restored sonship.

1. Opening Reflection

Question:

What stood out to you from the sermon on Sunday?

Leader Insight:

Look for themes like:

- Jesus as a *representative substitute* (our place)
- The idea of the “glitch” = sin breaking God's design
- Identity shift (not just behavior change)

Follow-up prompts:

- What challenged you?
 - What encouraged you?
 - Did anything reshape how you see the cross?
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2. Understanding the Big Story

Read: Romans 5:18–19; 1 Corinthians 15:21–22

Question:

What contrasts do you notice between Adam and Jesus? How would you explain “Jesus undoing the Fall”?

Leader Insight:

Help the group see:

- Adam = disobedience → sin, death, condemnation
- Jesus = obedience → righteousness, life, justification
- Adam brought *inheritance of sin*; Jesus brings *inheritance of life*

Simple explanation to guide them:

Jesus “undoes” the Fall by succeeding where Adam failed and taking the consequences Adam unleashed.

Key idea: Two representatives, two outcomes, two identities.

3. Jesus Lived the Life We Couldn't

Read: Hebrews 4:15

Question:

Why does it matter that Jesus was tempted like us but never sinned?

Leader Insight:

- He fully understands our struggle (He's not distant)
- He qualifies as a perfect substitute
- His righteousness can be credited to us

Draw this out:

- We don't follow a detached Savior—we follow One who *gets it*
- His perfection isn't discouraging—it's *covering*

Follow-up:

- Does this make it easier or harder to approach Him honestly?
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4. Jesus Died the Death We Deserved

Read: Isaiah 53:5–6

Question:

What stands out about what Jesus took on Himself? How do you respond?

Leader Insight:

Highlight substitution language:

- “pierced for *our* transgressions”
- “crushed for *our* iniquities”
- “the Lord laid on Him the iniquity of us all”

Help the group move from head → heart:

- Not abstract suffering—*personal substitution*

Possible responses to surface:

- Gratitude
 - Humility
 - Awe
 - Resistance (feeling unworthy)
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5. Two Identities: In Adam vs. In Christ

Read: 1 Corinthians 15:49

Question:

What does it mean to bear Adam’s image vs. Christ’s? Where do you see the old identity?

Leader Insight:

In Adam:

- Shame
- Self-reliance
- Fear
- Sin patterns

In Christ:

- Righteousness
- Security
- Freedom
- New nature

Important note:

Believers still *feel* Adam, but are no longer *defined* by Adam.

Follow-up:

- When do you default back to your “old self”?
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6. Adopted and Made Heirs

Read: Romans 8:15–17

Question:

What does it mean to be a “co-heir with Christ”? What’s hard to believe?

Leader Insight:

This is identity language, not metaphor:

- Full family inclusion
- Shared inheritance with Jesus
- Intimacy with the Father (“Abba”)

Common struggles:

- Feeling unworthy
- Seeing God as distant
- Living like a spiritual orphan

Encourage honesty:

- Where do you still feel like an outsider with God?
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7. Union with Christ

Read: Galatians 2:20

Question:

What does “Christ lives in me” look like daily?

Leader Insight:

Union with Christ means:

- His life becomes our source
- Not self-improvement, but Spirit-dependence

Practical examples:

- Responding with patience you didn’t generate
- Choosing obedience when it’s costly
- Trusting instead of controlling

Follow-up:

- Where do you still try to live the Christian life on your own strength?
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8. Living as a New Creation

Read: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Question:

Where have you seen real change? Where are you still waiting?

Leader Insight:

Hold both truths:

- Transformation is *real*
- Transformation is *ongoing*

Encourage:

- Celebrate progress (often overlooked)
- Normalize process (sanctification takes time)

Helpful phrase:

“You are already new, but not yet fully formed.”

9. Application: Making the Pivot

Read: Colossians 3:1–3

Question:

What is one practical way you can pivot this week?

Leader Insight:

A “pivot” is:

- Moving from old identity → new identity thinking
- Choosing truth over instinct

Examples to suggest if needed:

- Replace self-condemning thoughts with gospel truth
- Start the day remembering “I am in Christ”
- Pause in moments of temptation and ask:
“*Who am I right now—Adam or Christ?*”

Make it concrete:

- Ask each person to name *one specific situation* this week
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Leader Wrap-Up

Reinforce:

- The cross didn’t just fix behavior—it fixed identity
- We are not trying to become new—we are learning to live as new

Closing encouragement:

The “glitch” has already been fixed in Christ. The Christian life is learning to live like that’s actually true.

Deep Dive: The Human Do-Over

A Study on Recapitulation & The New Adam

This study moves beyond "forgiveness of sins" to the deeper reality of **restoration of nature**. we will explore how Jesus didn't just pay a fine for our mistakes; He entered the human story to "re-do" it from the inside out.

I. The "Glitched" Human Race

The Problem: Inheriting a Broken Story

In the "Recapitulation" model, Adam isn't just a historical figure; he is the "Head" of a lineage. When the Head failed, the whole body inherited a "glitched" nature.

- **Read Romans 5:12–14 and Genesis 3:7–13.**
- **The Default Setting:** Notice that immediately after the Fall, Adam and Eve didn't just "feel bad"—they changed. They hid, they felt shame about their bodies, and they blamed others.
 - *How do you see these three "glitches" (Hiding, Shame, Blame) manifesting in modern society or your workplace?*
 - *Why is it harder to "stop blaming" than it is to simply apologize for a specific action? Does this suggest the problem is a choice or a "setting"?*
- **The Inheritance:** Paul says death "reigned" from Adam to Moses.
 - *If sin is a "glitched save file," can a player fix the file from within the game, or do they need an outside intervention?*
 - *In what ways have you tried to "patch" your own nature through self-help or willpower, only to find the "glitch" still there?*

II. The Great "Summing Up"

The Strategy: The God-Man's "Entry Point"

Ephesians 1:10 speaks of "summing up" (*anakephalaiosis*) all things in Christ. This literally means to "bring back under a new head."

- **Read Ephesians 1:7–10 and Hebrews 2:14–18.**
- **The Assumption:** Irenaeus argued that "What has not been assumed cannot be healed."
 - *If Jesus had bypassed childhood and appeared as a 30-year-old man, what part of the human experience would remain "un-healed"?*

- *Why was it vital for Jesus to be tempted "in every way, just as we are" (Hebrews 4:15)? If He couldn't actually feel the pull of temptation, would His victory be a "real" human victory?*
- **The Sanctification of Age:** Jesus went through infancy, youth, and adulthood.
 - *How does it change your prayer life to know that Jesus has "sanctified" (made holy) the specific age you are right now?*
 - *If Jesus is the "New Head" of the human race, what happens to our legal and spiritual connection to the "Old Head" (Adam)?*

III. The Wilderness and the Garden

The Comparison: Reversing the Tape of Failure

Jesus is the "Pro Player" who takes the controller and plays the levels where everyone else died.

- **Read Matthew 4:1–11 (The Wilderness) and compare it to Israel in the desert (Exodus 16-17).**
 - *Israel failed the test of hunger; how did Jesus pass it? Israel tested God's protection; how did Jesus respond?* Why did Jesus use Scripture to fight? Was He showing off His divinity, or showing us how a "Perfect Human" relies on God?*
- **Read Matthew 26:36–46 (Gethsemane) and compare it to Genesis 3 (Eden).**
 - *In Eden, Adam was in a paradise but chose his own will. In Gethsemane, Jesus was in agony but chose God's will. How does Gethsemane "undo" what happened in Eden?*
 - *1 Corinthians 15:45 calls Jesus the "Last Adam." If the first Adam brought "death" as a natural consequence, what "natural consequence" does the Last Adam bring to those joined to Him?*
- **Reflection:** *If Jesus "re-lived" human history correctly, does that mean God looks at your history through the lens of Jesus' perfect "save file"? How does that impact your sense of worth?*

IV. Living from the "Clean Save"

The Transformation: Putting on the New Self

This is the "Do." We don't just admire Jesus' performance; we "upload" it into our lives.

- **Read 2 Corinthians 5:17 and Colossians 3:1–10.**
- **The Identity Shift:** Paul says to "put on the new self."
 - *Is "putting on" something you do once, or is it a daily wardrobe choice? What does "putting on Christ" look like in the middle of a stressful Tuesday?*

- *If you are a "New Creation," why do the "old glitched files" (addictions, tempers, fears) sometimes still feel so real?*
- **Breaking Ancestral Patterns:** Many of us carry "biological" or "ancestral" trauma—patterns passed down for generations.
 - *In light of Recapitulation, do you have to be defined by your family's "story"?*
 - *How can you use the phrase "That's the old story, I'm in the new one" as a practical spiritual weapon this week?*
- **The Community Aspect:** * *If we are all part of this "New Humanity," how should we treat others who are still struggling with their "glitched" files? How does this theology move us from judgment to empathy?*