



### **Icebreaker:**

Tell of a time when you went swimming in an (amazing) pool?

### **Announcements:**

Invite someone to join you for our Cannonball series.

### **Prayer Time:**

Pray for our building project as demolition begins soon in our east wing.

### **Study Questions:**

Read Ephesians 2:1-10. What is one takeaway from each of these verses? What is God's wrath expressed against in verse 3? Why is it important to see that it is our sinful nature- our selfish independence- that God steadfastly opposes? What would happen if God tolerated our sin and did nothing about it? What impact might this have on our future new heaven- new earth dwelling? What is God's answer to our sin problem?

What does God recreate us to do with our lives- see v. 10. What is a vital earmark of faith?

Read John 15:1-5. What do we need to do to bear fruit? What can prevent us from bearing fruit? How do faith and works relate? If we are not saved by our works do our works matter? Discuss the statement that works are not the root of faith but the fruit of faith. What does this mean?

What pool(s) are you swimming in today? How can you represent Jesus in your pool of relationships- work pool, family pool, marriage pool, kids sports parents pool, community group pool etc.

What does Titus 2:11-14 say about the splash we are to make in our various pools of relationships? According to verse 12 how are we to be different from others? According to verse 13 what point of view should be most noticeable in our lives? In verse 14 what is God's goal for our lives?

How can we better serve others in our pool of relationships? Discuss the role we can play in heading for the hurt? What can prevent us from reaching out to others?

Read Matthew 15:14-16. Why is it so important to see our life as a Christ follower as a light? What does this say about being timid, afraid, private about our faith? How can we give credit to Jesus for our good works so we don't unwittingly take credit for our changed life and compassion- cf.- v16- so God gets the credit?

**Conversational Prayer:** Dear God show me...