

Discussion Guide: The Greatest Offer of Renovation

1. The Icebreaker (10 mins)

- **The Concept:** We often focus on improving our physical surroundings. How does the idea of God wanting to renovate "something far more important than a temporal physical house" like you, sit with you?

2. Understanding the "With God" Life (20 mins)

- **The Ultimate Goal:** The purpose of this "great plan" or "with God" life is to grant us the life we could never achieve or possess on our own. We are invited to re-orient our life to begin to live in constant companionship and alignment with God to depend on him as needed.
- **The Invitation:** Steve mentioned an invitation to the "with God" life. In your own words, what is the difference between living *for* God and living *with* God?
- **The Spiritual Renovator:** Jesus is described as a "spiritual renovator". Read **Mark 1:15**: "*The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!*"
 - What does it mean for the Kingdom of God to be "near" or "available personally" to us today?
 - Why is "repenting" (turning from sin) a necessary step for this renovation to begin?

3. Comparing the Two Lives (15 mins)

The Thief	Jesus (The King)
Comes only to steal, kill, and destroy.	Came so that we may have life and have it to the full.
Represents Satan and any philosophies apart from the Kingdom.	Offers a radical invitation to a life with God, where God is accessible and reigning.

- **The Full Life:** Read **John 10:10**: "*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and have it to the full.*"
 - The text defines "the thief" as Satan or competing philosophies apart from Jesus. What are some modern "competing religious or worldly philosophies" that try to steal our peace or purpose?
 - What does "life to the full" look like in a practical, everyday sense?

4. Personal Application & Closing (10 mins)

- **Invitation of Jesus:** ²⁸“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” Matthew 11:28-30. How will you respond?
- **Practice Presence:** No matter what you are struggling with, or if you lack peace, joy or hope due to a circumstance, how can you remind yourself today that the Kingdom/presence of God is "near" and available to you in this very moment to seek God for your need.
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