

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE



**PRINCE
OF PEACE**
Called to Connect



Called As We Are

January 19 & 20, 2019

We are called **as** we are and called to be **who** we are. This is both a gift of grace and a great challenge. The truth is, most of us don't know who we really are. We define ourselves by our roles, jobs or history, but our true self is something deeper than these. In addition, God calls us in the particularities of our life stage and our developmental tasks.

SCRIPTURE TEXT : PSALM 139

Read the scripture text together as a group.

BACKGROUND INFO

Our relationship with God is from the beginning. God creates each person, knows us inside and out and loves us. The words of this Psalm are similarly powerful for those of us who are well beyond our days of birth. To recall our own humble beginnings, and God's intimate involvement in that dawning, is to bring us to pray with the Psalmist, *O Lord, you have searched me and known me* (vs. 1). God calls us to live in the world just as we are, with all our great attributes and our imperfections. God's call is not generic, but is specific to your time in life. Each one of us has a unique and particular calling. Because God calls each one of us by name. You have been given this life, and can discover God's call as you are. God created each of us, regardless of our context, to be his children, but we can only live out our callings within our time and place.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How have you come to understand your own particularities and how do you feel called to be in the world using what you have been given?
- What does Psalm 139 reveal about you and your value to God?
- What did you enjoy doing in your childhood that you continue to enjoy now? And do you see it as part of your call? Why or why not?
- Knowing that God created you to be in this world at this time, where do you see yourself sharing your call?

APPLICATION: This week, consider how God uniquely created you and lean into what makes you who you are. How does your unique situation and particularities work into a calling in your daily life?

*Additional Resource: The Stories We Live by Kathleen Cahalan**

**This sermon series is based on concepts from Cahalan's book. This week's sermon and study guide following along with Ch. 3.*