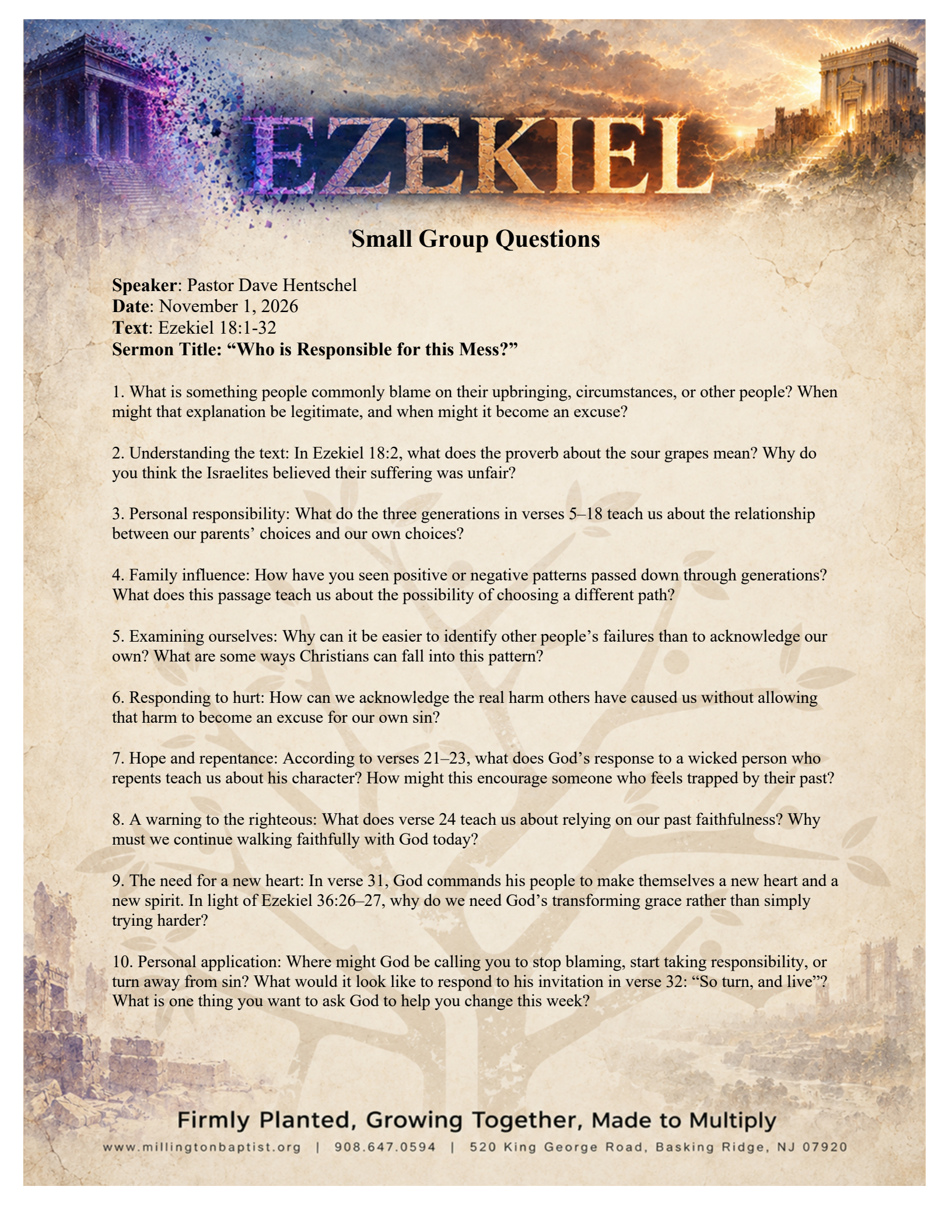




EZEKIEL

Small Group Questions

Speaker: Pastor Dave Hentschel

Date: November 1, 2026

Text: Ezekiel 18:1-32

Sermon Title: “Who is Responsible for this Mess?”

1. What is something people commonly blame on their upbringing, circumstances, or other people? When might that explanation be legitimate, and when might it become an excuse?
2. Understanding the text: In Ezekiel 18:2, what does the proverb about the sour grapes mean? Why do you think the Israelites believed their suffering was unfair?
3. Personal responsibility: What do the three generations in verses 5–18 teach us about the relationship between our parents’ choices and our own choices?
4. Family influence: How have you seen positive or negative patterns passed down through generations? What does this passage teach us about the possibility of choosing a different path?
5. Examining ourselves: Why can it be easier to identify other people’s failures than to acknowledge our own? What are some ways Christians can fall into this pattern?
6. Responding to hurt: How can we acknowledge the real harm others have caused us without allowing that harm to become an excuse for our own sin?
7. Hope and repentance: According to verses 21–23, what does God’s response to a wicked person who repents teach us about his character? How might this encourage someone who feels trapped by their past?
8. A warning to the righteous: What does verse 24 teach us about relying on our past faithfulness? Why must we continue walking faithfully with God today?
9. The need for a new heart: In verse 31, God commands his people to make themselves a new heart and a new spirit. In light of Ezekiel 36:26–27, why do we need God’s transforming grace rather than simply trying harder?
10. Personal application: Where might God be calling you to stop blaming, start taking responsibility, or turn away from sin? What would it look like to respond to his invitation in verse 32: “So turn, and live”? What is one thing you want to ask God to help you change this week?

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