

## STARTING OVER

What New Year resolutions have you made? How many have you been able to keep? Why is keeping new resolutions so hard?

If you could start over again, what would you do differently in life? Why?

Have you ever tried to start over with something or someone, and it didn't turn out very well? Describe. How do we keep from committing the same mistakes (sins?) over and over again?

What did Dr. Martin mean when he said, "we can start over with God, or we can start over without God"? How might someone in the New Year start over without God? Give examples.

What are the different ways a person could understand the phrase, "Starting Over with God"? How might starting over with God be of help to you?

What does Dr. Martin mean when he says we might be still "seeing God with a kindergarten understanding in a grown up world" or that "your kindergarten understanding of God has not been adequate for the complexities of adult life."

Read Matthew 22:1-14. Why did the king get so upset with the guest? What is this part of the parable saying to us?

Read Ephesians 4:22-24. What does it mean "to put off your old self," and "to put on the new self." Describe the *old self* and the *new self*.

How would you describe a "phony Christian?" How would you describe an "authentic Christian? How can we become more authentic in the Christian life by starting over, where this time things will be different?