

Discussion Guide

Series: Extraordinary wk2 Places (Small Beginnings)

December 8, 2024



Big Idea

God uses people from ordinary places to do extraordinary things.



Icebreaker

Where did you see God at work in the seemingly every day this past week (testify!)?



Discussion Questions

1. Read John 1:1-5. What section of the Old Testament Scriptures does John harken us back to here? What did Jesus come to create? How has Jesus recreated your broken world, personally, up to this point? In other words, what is different from the way your life used to be because He is in in it (what has been healed, revived, corrected, etc. in and around you)?
2. Read John 1:14 and Isaiah 40:3-5. In last week's sermon we talked about how God keeps His promises. How does the reading of these two sets of passages display this truth? How does knowing this impact your faith & why? How would you have expected the Messiah to come versus how Messiah did come? What does this communicate to you about God & how He feels about humanity (you!)?
3. Read John 1:1:35-46. How did Nathanael initially respond to Philip & why? Where would have Nathanael likely thought Messiah (Jesus) would be from & why? What does where Messiah came from communicate to us about what God thinks regarding where someone is from? Fill in the following blanks: "God uses people from o_____ places to do e_____ things."
4. Where did you grow up and do you consider it a significant place or no & why? Have you ever felt self-conscious about either: where you grew up, your family of origin, where you were in the birth order, being a male or female, where you went to school, etc. or in any other way? Why? None of that ultimately counts. Fill in the following blank: What counts is how you r_____ to God.
5. Building off the final statement of the prior question, what does it look like, or entail, to respond to God well? Do you have room to grow in this & if so, how? Would recalibrating your mindset by not being so self-conscious about some things help you to grow in this & if so, how?
6. Zechariah 4:6b & 10a say the following: "*“Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,” says the LORD Almighty. ‘Who dare despises the day of small things?’*" In thinking about these statements, what are some examples from the Bible where God used seemingly "small" or "insignificant" people to accomplish mighty things by His Spirit? As you reflect on these passages and the elicited examples, is life more about you and what you can do, or is it more about God and what He can do through you? How should this influence your life and your outlook on it?



Concluding Question

Read Romans 12:3-8. Discuss how this passage impacts how we should value ourselves & others. Discuss how this passage should impact the view of our potential for the Lord.



Prayer

God has many things in store through Revive Wesleyan this Advent season, lift them up in prayer...that people would find healing, hope, and grace through them from the Lord.