

“HOW TO LET GOD USE YOU MORE” LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION MAKING ROOM SERIES (WEEK 2)

Memory verse:

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God-this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-his good, pleasing and perfect will.” (Romans 12:1-2)

Introduction

The purpose of this week's study is to help us consider how we can increase our usability to God. We want to see our expectation change from: “It is possible God could use us/me this week” to “It is **almost certain** that God will use us/me to bring change in people's lives this week.

Dig Deeper

Spend some time reflecting on how our strengths can possibly hinder us from being used by God, and the weaknesses, hurts, struggles that we may most dislike about ourselves can actually be the thing God uses the most.

Consider the following people and Scriptures in your reflection.

- Solomon when he was young seeking wisdom vs. when he was old and already had it
- Peter when he was afraid to walk on water but did anyhow
- Peter when he was sure he wouldn't deny Jesus
- Paul when he was a Pharisee of Pharisees with all of the answers; Paul when he was broken and saw himself as the chief of sinners
- I Corinthians 1:27-2:4, 2 Corinthians 1:3, 4:1-10, 12:8-10

Ice Breaker

1. What is an example of a favorite person (in athletics or in another field) who, when it mattered most raised their “game” to the challenge? Do you have an example in your life where you felt God really helped you raise your game to a challenge?

2. In the illustration Dale gave of the different cups, what was one of the cups you found easy to relate to and why?

- a. The Christmas cup- that wants to control when it is available
- b. The cup with the lid- that just feels too small or limited to go beyond where they are
- c. The cluttered cup- that is too busy to think about being used by God
- d. The cup that has some uncleansed areas (motives, secrets)- that hold them back
- e. The chipped cup- that has been hurt and is afraid to risk
- f. The cup on the front shelf – that is eager and available

3. When you consider the different giants around us (ways Satan has brought hurt, loss, and destruction to people's lives) is there one burden or cause, that especially moves your heart to want to take action and make a difference?

4. Which of the choices David made especially resonates with you that could help you be used more by God?

- a. The decision to magnify God more than your problem/talk to your fears and make declarations of God's promises instead of just letting your fears talk to you.
- b. The importance of activating your faith to serve God in small ways where you are (caring for sheep) and not just waiting for a big moment
- c. The decision to embrace the way God made you and use your gifts instead of comparing yourself with others and trying to "wear someone else's armor."
- d. The courage to refuse to allow possible lids to stop you. (David's family not believing in him, his lack of training, his lowly position, the threats and intimidation of his enemy, the fact that he was the lowliest member of his family...)

5. If you were to verbalize the number one lie or excuse the devil would try to convince you to explain why you don't think God could use you, what would it be?

6. Based on Romans 12:1-2 which might God especially be speaking to you to do?

- a. Present yourself to be used by him with no stipulations
- b. Separate yourself and let him help you nail to the cross those secrets and lids that hold you back
- c. Ask for the transformation of your thinking to go from a "wounded mindset to a warrior mindset"
- d. Claim the courage to activate your gifts by steps of obedience