



# Chosen™

SPEAKER: DANI COLE  
DATE: AUGUST 22, 2021

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*These questions are designed to help lead your group through a progression of engagement with the Bible passage(s) and the speaker's message. They can help you understand and apply the teaching.*

## BIBLICAL TEXT(S) + MESSAGE SUMMARY:

**JOHN 4; MATT 14:14-21; MATT 25: 31-46; GEN 1:27**

This week we were addressed by Dani Cole, Senior Church Advisor for World Vision in the Pacific Northwest. Dani shared with us how a family crisis brought a dramatic transformation in her life as she met Jesus in the midst of the trial, and deeply identified with the story of the Samaritan Woman at the Well in John 4.

Dani also shared with us the trials that children in Rwanda face every day, just to survive and invited us to help bear their burden. Let's explore what the Bible tells us about radical transformations, our inherent worth and how God uses our stepping out in faith to create miraculous provision in a broken world.

**LEAN IN: *These are icebreakers and warm ups, mostly to get the group talking and start the flow of conversation. Choose one and talk it over for 5-10 minutes.***

1. If you could time travel, where and when would you go?
2. If you could go back and meet Jesus in the first century AD, what would you say to him? Given the opportunity, would you invite him over to your house for dinner and put him up for the night? What do you imagine that would be like?
3. Describe a time when you were faced with a challenge and had no idea how to address it. What did you do? Did you ignore it, adapt to it, overcome it?
4. What is your least favorite insect or animal? Why is it your least favorite? What do you generally do when you encounter it?
5. What story or illustration in this week's sermon made the most impact on you? Why?

**LOOK DOWN: *These are questions about the Bible passage(s) and observations about what's been read. Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max.***

1. Read John 4: 4-18, 25-30, 39-41. Why was the Samaritan woman gathering water alone during the heat of the day? Why was it unusual that Jesus would speak to the Samaritan woman? What transformation do you see from before she met Jesus to after she spoke with him? How did her radical transformation spread the Kingdom of God?
2. Read Gen 1:27. In whose image were we created? How does this give us inherent dignity and worth? Did God specify certain people to receive more or less dignity or worth?
3. Read Matt 14:14-21. What was the problem that Jesus and his disciples encountered? What solution did the disciples offer up to Jesus? What did Jesus tell them to do instead? What was the final outcome of the situation?

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4. Read Matthew 25: 31-46. This passage speaks of Jesus' final triumphant return. What imagery is used to describe the final judgment? What criteria does Jesus use in the judgment?

**LOOK OUT: *These questions help connect the world of the Bible to today. Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max.***

1. What things do you see around the world that break your heart and give you a feeling of being overwhelmed?
2. Have you ever encountered people being treated poorly simply because they had less material wealth than others? Describe what you saw, how you felt about the people who were treated as less, and those who were treating them so?
3. What kinds of things honestly go through your mind when you see the homeless camps in our cities?
4. We read in the Bible about people who are poor, hungry and marginalized. Why do you think during the millennium that have passed since the Bible was recorded, that we haven't figured out a way to fix that yet? What's the core issue? Is it out there - with society - or is it in here - with me?

**LOOK IN: *These are questions that help you consider how to engage the teaching personally. Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max.***

1. Given the disciples daunting task of feeding five thousand men (not including women and children), how would you have reacted to Jesus' command, "you feed them" when you only had five loaves of bread and two fish? What happened so that everyone was fed and there were more leftovers than food to begin with?
2. Have you ever felt ashamed, labeled, or marginalized because of something you did, or just because of your life circumstances? Can you relate to the Samaritan woman at the well? Have you ever felt unworthy of God's love? Read Romans 5:6-8. How does this passage - being Chosen by God - speak to that feeling?
3. Have you ever experienced a time when you had less, and so you felt less than? How does Genesis 1:27 speak to this?
4. Have you ever seen a group of people and reacted to them in a similar way that you react to your least favorite insect? How does Genesis 1:27 speak to this? In retrospect, how does this make you feel?

**LIVE IT OUT: *These action steps help apply this week's message to day to day life. Choose one prompts and talk it over for 5-10 minutes.***

1. Jesus' Disciples encountered a huge problem that they felt helpless to solve. Yet, they were obedient and brought their five small loaves and two fish, and God multiplied their meager provisions and fed a multitude of people. That which was brought in faith multiplied into

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the miraculous! What are some things that you can bring to the Lord in faith, so that he might multiply them into the miraculous for the sake of our broken and crying world?

2. If you are currently in a space where you feel broken or marginalized, spend some time meditating on Genesis 1:27, John 3:16-17 and Romans 5:6-8. You have been Chosen by God – just as you are. He loves you so much that he chose you even before you chose him! Receive his gift and tell someone about it!