

MADE NEW

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

GROUP CHECK-IN:

Part of the rhythms of us as a group is to move beyond just *learning* but moving through life together. This space to start is a great way to begin to move into sharing rhythms, trusting, and being faithful with the relationships entrusted to us.

Ask this question: "***Where do you see God at work in your life?***"

Give space for everyone to answer, stopping to pray for one another as the Holy Spirit leads.

SERIES OVERVIEW:

We continue this week with our series "Made New." Over the next five weeks, we will be centered around one question: "*What does it mean to really flourish spiritually?*" With this idea of spiritual flourishing, we are going to look through Scripture and dive into five postures that need to be in place for us to spiritually flourish. There are likely more, and for sure dive in as the Holy Spirit leads your group! But as we examine these five, each of these is born out of a deep dive into God's Word.

SUNDAY RECAP:

We looked at our fifth and faint posture: our identity as a missionary. Pastor Brannon took us to Isaiah 6:1-13 to help us understand meaningful mission in and for our lives. To refresh, read **Isaiah 6:1-13** together as a group.



CONVERSATION QUESTIONS:

- ***“Until we see ourselves rightly we will never understand the beauty of grace.”***
What is hard for you/your community to see yourself rightly? What does it mean to see ourselves rightly?
 - How does God’s Word speak to who we are? Take some time to share passages that the Holy Spirit brings to mind. [If you need some texts to dig into together: *Ephesians 2:1-10, Galatians 2:20, Romans 8, Romans 12*]
- Pastor Brannon asked the question “What is the point of your life?” How is this question answered for those outside of Christ? How is this answered for those in Christ?
 - If you held a mirror up to your own life, would the way you answer this be true?
 - If God saved me to send me, and if God says “life is never going to be like it was back then — go anyway” - how does your life line up with this truth?
- Pastor Brannon challenged us to see mission as being more than “come and see.” As seeing mission, as seen in the Gospel, not as an arm-wrestling match to guilt others into the Kingdom but an encounter with Jesus and an invitation to being loved by Him. What part of seeing mission in this lens is hard for you? What part of seeing mission in this lens encourages you?
 - What specific things do you need the Holy Spirit to either soften in your heart, bring clarity to in your mind, or give discernment to in your actions?

EVERY DAY TO EVERYONE:

As we hear God's Word, examine God's Word, our lives move in response to His Word and the leading of the Holy Spirit. We want you to take space to process what steps to take so that we can make much of Jesus every day to everyone. Don't feel pressured to move in bigger steps than where God has you - you can process these individually or move in step as a group.

- ***First Steps (WHO GOD IS/WHO I AM NOT):***

Brannon encouraged us for mission to be meaningful it must start with who God is and who we are not. Sometimes, as humanity tends to do, we can forget this. Make some space to reflect on the depth of God's love. Mission is not dependent upon our moral cleanliness (after all - it is only by Christ and His continuing work of sanctification that we have anything good at all.) If you do not have rhythm in your life of time with Jesus, make space in your day/week to be with God. To spend time in His Word, to pray over His truth, to walk in line with the Spirit.

- ***Next Steps (WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR US, NOT WHAT WE DO FOR GOD):***

"Our God never arm wrestles anyone into His Kingdom through guilt." Have you felt like you are in an arm-wrestling match with those who are not in Christ? Make space to write down why - what do you feel like you need to do/change in them? Ask the Holy Spirit to speak truth over this. Spend time reading/praying in 1 Corinthians 3, asking the Holy Spirit to give you wisdom and discernment in being faithful to what He has called but not get discouraged over results and timing.

- ***Further Steps (LONG-TERM FAITHFULNESS OVER SHORT-TERM SUCCESS):***

"It will not be because people came in these doors ready to hear a great sermon, but because we left here eager to introduce people to a greater Savior." If the relationships in your family, your work, your neighborhood didn't have the option to show up at 715 Whittier Ave NW - but have the option to daily encounter you, how does this change your rhythms in helping them encounter Jesus? Would you say your idea of mission has been more about getting others to someplace/someone or seeing yourself in your actions, postings, attitude, rhythms of life as an introduction to what Jesus looks like?

- Ask the Holy Spirit to "search you and see" (Psalm 139) if there is anything that is hindering others from getting a glimpse of the beauty of Jesus.

Close in prayer, asking Jesus to strengthen you and the Holy Spirit to lead you as you take steps to make much of Him in your every day to your everyone.