

LEADER GUIDE

Adventure: Making Life Thrilling Again

“Reigniting Your Passions” April 23, 2017

Quick Review:

How would you answer the question with which Mark began his message: “Life is _____”?
Did anything in the message affect how you answer that question? Explain.

My Story:

- When you were a child, did you have a collection of anything? Do you collect anything now?
- When is the last time something that you heard or saw ignited your passion and moved you to action? (Please describe)

Digging Deeper:

This sermon series builds on the premise that we can have adventure in our lives, that life can thrill us, even if that may not seem possible or likely right now. The underlying truth is that this type of adventure is possible while living life in a right relationship with God.

1. Part of that right relationship is trusting that God’s will for your life really is your best plan. Read these verses together:
 - a. Proverbs 3:5-6
Many people memorize this verse. Discuss what it might mean for God to make your paths straight. Does that mean “easy”?
 - b. Proverbs 16:9, 19:21
 - c. Romans 12:2
 - d. 1 Cor. 2:9
 - e. Eph. 3:20
 - f. Isaiah 14:24

Discuss why some of these verses seem very positive and reassuring while others make it appear as if God does what He wants, no matter what our plans are/were. How do you reconcile that?

What stands out to you from these verses? What personal applications can you take away for your own life?

2. Read these verses about God’s call on our lives. Whom does He call?
Does God call all of us to something? OR does He only call pastors, missionaries, evangelists, etc?
 - a. Jeremiah 1:5-8 (a very specific call on Jeremiah)
 - b. 2 Tim. 1:9 (Note that saving us and calling us are not the same thing in this verse. What do you believe the difference is?)
God calls us to a holy life.
 - c. Eph. 2:10 – God calls us to good works, prepares the work, and prepares us!
 - d. Romans 8:29-30 – sanctification – to become like Jesus
 - e. John 15:16-17- God calls us to bear fruit. We are called to love each other.
 - f. 1 Cor. 7:17-24 – This is a long passage that isn’t in the homework. It discusses staying in the situation they were in when God called them. Given your time constraints, you might discuss this. What should this mean (if anything) to us in 2017 Nebraska?

3. “But what if God calls me to do something I can’t do???”

Leaders, the idea of this question is that God equips us to do what He asks us to do. We can find security in this. We can trust God. He may stretch us, but he WILL equip us.

- a. Ps. 21:7 - This is specifically talking about a BIG job – being king! A take-away from this verse is that no matter the level of your responsibility, God is big enough to equip you to stand firm.
- b. 1 Peter 4:10 – We are to serve through our God-given gifts. Does everyone in your group know their spiritual gifting? If not, good inventories can be found online.
- c. Phil. 2:12-14 – God’s at work to fulfill His purposes. We are to come along side where we see Him at work. He can even work on our desire to serve Him. (Some translations say, “... enabling you both to desire and to work out His good purpose.”) We can pray to this end!
- d. Eph. 2:10 – This is a repetition from question #2, but it works really well here, too. It is not shown in the homework.
- e. Heb. 13:20-21 – Great verse to pray over your group!

Taking it Home:

1. If you are in a job (or other situation) that doesn’t thrill you, does that mean you are in the wrong job (or place)? Consider the example of Paul in Acts 18:2-4. Which part do you think thrilled Paul, the tent-making (which paid the bills!) or the preaching?
2. [Do you have a passion outside of your work? What is it?](#)
3. What do you believe God has called you to do? How can your group pray for you?

Other possible resources:

“The Best Yes” by Lysa TerKeurst – This book talks about the stress of living with an overwhelming schedule. What do we need to say no to so that we can say “yes” to God? And how do we do that???

“Desiring God” by John Piper – Highly recommended by Pastors Brian Abbott and Tom Schindler

Description: Scripture reveals that the great business of life is to glorify God by enjoying Him forever. In this paradigm-shattering classic, John Piper reveals that the debate between duty and delight doesn’t truly exist: Delight is our duty. Readers will embark on a dramatically different and joyful experience of their faith.