

MARVEL

ORDINARY PEOPLE, EXTRAORDINARY POTENTIAL

Members Guide Week 2

SERMON RECAP: WHAT DID THE TEXT MEAN? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

In the message this week we learned about a man named Moses and his great faith in God. We learned that in order for us to be steadfast in pursuing God's course for our lives we must do as Moses did:

1. Get our priorities straight
2. Care more about pleasing God than pleasing others
3. Trust God to cover our mistakes
4. Depend on God to get us through

WARM UP

How has your relationship with your parents influenced who you are today?

THE TEXT: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME?

Numbers 12:4-8 - Find out what God says about Moses' faith.

Hebrew 11:24-28 - Discover other inspiring facts about the faithfulness of Moses.

Moses could have gotten caught up in the trappings of his culture and surroundings. He could have easily lived the rest of his life in comfort, prestige and privilege; instead he determined that would be living a lie and contrary to God's will for his life.

Moses left the life of pleasure and power and became a shepherd in order to pursue the mission God had planned for him.

Getting Our Priorities Straight!

- a. Have you ever declined a profitable opportunity or gift because you knew it wasn't right? Explain your experience.
- b. What would your children say is most important to you?
- c. Describe activities (sports, entertainment, hobbies) that you and your family are involved in that could possibly inhibit making Jesus a priority.

In Matthew 6:33 Jesus says "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you."

- a. In relation to the verse Matthew 6:33, how do your priorities line up?
- b. What are some practical ways we can begin to “seek first the kingdom of God”?
- c. Ask the group to discuss ways we can make Christ a greater priority in our families.

Care More about Pleasing God than Pleasing Others

“By faith he left Egypt behind, not being afraid of the king’s anger, for Moses persevered as one who sees Him who is invisible.” Hebrews 11:27

Read: Galatians 1:10, Joshua 1:8, 1Thessalonians 5:16-18, Hebrews 10:24-25, Malachi 3:10

Because many of us like to please ourselves and other people, we often place good activities over and above God’s priorities. (i.e.) reading the Bible, praying, attending church services, going to Lifegroup, and tithing.

Are there any acceptable reasons to skip some of these healthy priorities in our lives? What would those reasons be?

- a. What are some unacceptable reasons to skip these healthy priorities?
- b. What does being steadfast and faithful in these priorities teach your children?

Trust God to Cover Your Mistakes

“By faith he instituted the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn might not touch the Israelites.” Hebrews 11:28

The aspect of grace and mercy is always at the center of God’s story! God always makes a way for fallen, imperfect humans to come back into relationship with Him. For Moses and the Israelites it was through animal sacrifice. For us, it is through the perfect, once and for all, redeeming blood of Jesus that covers all our sin.

Grace means to get something that you do not deserve; unmerited favor. Mercy means you do not get a punishment that you deserve.

- a. How does the concept of grace and mercy play a crucial role in remaining faithful to God and His priorities?
- b. Since we have been given grace and mercy how then should we respond to our family members when they make mistakes and fail our expectations?
- c. James 5:15 says “confess your sins to each other”. What could be the positive teaching opportunities if you were to practice this truth within your family?

“Therefore, since we have been declared righteous by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. We have also obtained access through Him by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.”

Romans 5:1-2

- d. How does having unlimited “access” to God and unending “peace with God” encourage you to make Him your #1 priority?
- e. What is one thing you can change this week that reveals to you and your family God is your #1 priority?

Depend on God to Get You through

Marriage and raising children will challenge your faith to the core and like Moses, you will be faced with the decision to trust in yourself and your own ways or to trust in God. Proverbs 3:5-6 says “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding; think about Him in all your ways, and He will guide you on the right paths.”

Why is it so hard for us to trust in God?

CLOSING THOUGHT

Accountability is a huge benefit that our Lifegroups provide. Come to your next group meeting prepared to share your experience with changing one thing that reveals to you and your family that God is your #1 priority.