



TURNING POINTS

Digging Deeper

Champions for Christ

Week of October 16, 2016

These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your Connect Group discussions.

Message Recap:

Read Matthew 14:22-33

Fear makes us do crazy things. Things will happen we can not control. Our response is one of three choices:

- 1) There is no hope - I quit. This leads to depression and defeat.
- 2) I am my hope - I will work it out. This results in continual chaos.
- 3) Jesus is my hope - I will trust. This leads to the good of God.

The only thing bigger than the bad of life is the good of God! When life gets scary, God has called us to be a champion with Christ not a powerless victim. There is hope but only through God.

Expect to be surprised, be crazy confident in Jesus, know your identity, hear Jesus, and attempt something impossible for God's glory. We are no longer a slave to fear - we are God's children—Champions of Christ! Champions do things in life that get Jesus noticed and known by others.

Pray

God, you have called me to live my life as a confident champion through Jesus Christ. No matter the craziness around me, help guide my thoughts to throw off fear and respond with confidence knowing no fear is bigger than your goodness.

Getting Started

- Knowing that fear makes us do crazy things, what are you irrationally afraid of and how do you respond?
- Who has loved you well during your life and what impact does that have on you today?

Listening Deeply

1. Throughout the craziness of your life, in what ways have you responded to fear?
2. What is the “yellow-brick-road box”? What does it mean to when we fit God into that box?
3. When you think of the many miracles of Jesus, which do you think is the best example of his abilities? Explain why.
4. Why do we all seem to struggle with our identity?
5. With all the noise around us and in our heads, what steps can we take to insure we are able to hear Jesus in the panic of scary?
6. As followers of Christ, what message can we take to the people around us at church, school, work and in our communities?
7. What impossible thing can you attempt to do for the glory of God?

Living Wide in Jesus

This can be your turning point. Life is full of craziness, but the crazy doesn't have to own you. Know who you are - *a child of God*. Throw off fear and respond to the crazy with confidence. Live life as a champion through Jesus. Hear Jesus. Get Jesus noticed. Be crazy about Jesus. This is how a champion lives! Instead of a life filled with a fear of failure, choose a life in Christ. Stop being a slave a fear and live each day, hour, and minute as a child of God!