



IT'S PERSONAL

Do you know...?

Session 5: Do You Know What I Can Do?

October 20 - 26, 2019

Hang Out (30 Minutes)

1. You can use the book [The Complete Book of Questions](#) to continue getting to know each other. Have a group member pick a number between 401 and 500, look up the question for that number and encourage everyone to answer. Remember, everyone has the right to pass on any question.
2. What do you think is one of your strengths?
3. What is something new that you would like to accomplish?
4. The leader informs the group plans after this study. Discuss if necessary (New Hosts: reference the "What's Next" document you received from Aaron. Established groups: discuss with new members added during this study.) Make plans for a social time together.

Watch The Video (24 Minutes)

Watch the video if necessary. If everyone viewed the sermon before the meeting, add this time to your discussion.

Discuss (30 Minutes)

It's okay if you don't get to every question. Leaders, guide the group to the questions you think will be most helpful.

1. What stood out to you from Sunday's message? It might be helpful to briefly recap the sermon.
2. Help each other to look up Jeremiah 29:11-13. After everyone has found the passage, have someone read it.
 - Share the historical context that anyone knows of this passage. You can read Jeremiah 29:1-10 and any notes that people have in their study Bibles. Try to understand what God's people living in exile in Babylon had been experiencing. Consider the number of years in the future that the prophet is describing (see v. 10) and whether God's plans are directed towards the whole group of people or individuals. After a few minutes of discussing the context of these verses, share your thoughts on this question: How do you imagine the Hebrew exiles would have reacted to hearing verses 11-13?
 - List the benefits described in this passage that we experience through God's plans for us.

- Do you think that God has a plan for each of our lives? How specific are God's plans? Give an example of a plan that you imagine God would have for someone's life.
3. Are there plans that you imagine God has for your life? Give an example.
 4. What do you understand about God knowing what you can do? To answer you can draw from the sermon on Sunday, your discussion of Jeremiah 29: 11-13, and from your own experience and wisdom.
 5. This was the take away from Sunday's sermon: You can be personal enough to believe and encourage someone in their potential to live a remarkable story. What are some tips that you have learned to be able to do this?
 6. Name someone that you sense God is nudging you encourage. How could you encourage this person in his/her potential to live a remarkable story?

SUMMARY

You can be personal enough to believe and encourage someone in their potential to live a remarkable story. A lot of people need someone to believe they can do something they may not even realize they can do. The traps of self-destructive habits, unresolved emotions, and overwhelming circumstances are the trick mirrors that foster in us the false inner-voice that our failures are personal, pervasive, and permanent. When Jesus said, "Salvation has come to this house," Jesus modeled belief. Zacchaeus responded in extraordinary changes to his behavior. God believes in us more than we can imagine. God has entrusted us with a mission that makes an eternal difference in the lives of people. When you believe in someone's potential, you answer a few underlying questions like, Do you believe in my dreams? Do you believe I have what it takes? Do you believe I do something meaningful? We can learn and practice ways that help others to believe in their own potential. Next Step: Identify one person you can encourage this week with your belief in that person, and then do it.

Pray (5 Minutes)

Remember that anyone can pass. Go around the circle and share one next step you are hoping to take in your journey of faith. Listen carefully to the person to your left, taking notes if it will help you remember. After everyone has shared, go around the circle again to pray for those next steps. Have the person to everyone's right briefly pray for the next step that person hopes to take.

This could be a simple prayer like: "Dear Lord, I believe that *Name of person* can describe the step the person desires to take. I trust that you, Lord, believe Name of person can take this step. Come Lord Jesus and help him/her to do this." The leader begins and ends the prayer.