

THE DIFFICULT PEOPLE

Lifegroups | Week 9 | FALL 2018

ICEBREAKER

As we approach the holiday season let's think back to all the gifts we have ever received. Go around and ask the group, what is the best gift you have EVER received?

OPEN IN PRAYER AND PLAY VIDEO

MESSAGE SUMMARY

Throughout our lives we get stuck having low expectations because of past disappointments. When this happens we have a difficult time believing God on a big level because we don't see big things. As we wait for the big things to happen don't quit believing, keep pressing on because you never know, the next time you try will be the blessing you've been waiting for.

SCRIPTURE *(do not read until prompted in the discussion questions)*

Luke 5:1-11 | 2 Kings 13:18-19

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Read Luke 5:1-11. Peter, James and John were fishermen and were finished with their day when Jesus came along. They had a bad day of fishing, which gave them low expectations for anything big to happen. When Jesus told them to cast their nets, they only casted one net. Just because something great didn't happen in the past doesn't mean it can't happen now. ***Can you believe in God to do something he's never done before? Has God ever given you something and you thought it was too good to be true so you thought it would fail?*** *(ex. Subconsciously making a relationship fail)*
- There are times that we try and try and try and nothing happens. So instead of trying again and again we stop because we get tired and disappointed. In 2 Kings 13:18-19, Elisha told the King of Syria to strike the ground for

deliverance but he only struck it three times. Elisha got mad because the King could have had more deliverance if he struck the ground more. If you're exhausted from trying God is saying try one more time. We have to remember that you're not a failure because you fail; you're a failure when you stop trying. ***What have you stopped trying to do because you didn't see results? Do you have the energy to try one more time?***

- We stop trying sometimes because we hear nothing from God. So instead of trying harder we stop but God wants us to prepare. During the time that we are waiting for a blessing or an answer we should be working on ourselves. When you feel stagnant God is giving you down time to prepare for the great thing. If you're not prepared for the great thing than you won't know how to handle it. Get ready for a net breaking blessing! ***What would a net breaking blessing look to you? How can you prepare now for the greatest blessing ever?*** *(ex. A house- get prepared by saving my money and cutting out things that take up savings)*
- Many different people will try to be part of our lives either as friends or partners. The difference is that friends are made out of common likenesses and partnerships are forged out of weaknesses. Be able to partner with people who have strengths that are not yours. So quit partnering with zeros! ***Who are your partners in life? What do they bring to the table? What do you bring to their table?***

CONCLUSION

God has blessings set apart for us but we have to keep trying for them, believe for them and keep waiting for them. Jesus sees our faithfulness in all that we do and he doesn't want us to give up. His blessings are right around the corner we just can't give up hope.

OUR CHALLENGE

This week 1. Write down the dreams, goals and prayers that you gave up on. Then 2. Write down why you gave up on them and if one of the reasons is because God didn't answer your prayer then its time to prepare. And 3. Write down a plan of preparation to start trying again for what God has put in your heart.