

Get Real About Your Limitations (Week 3)

VISION - On Sunday, Mark continued the sermon series Get Real by talking from the life of Peter about how we journey through the wall or walls in our life journey. He shared the importance of seeing our relationship with God less as a microwave of change and more as a lifelong journey of soul formation with seasons and ups and downs. He shared specifically how hitting the wall and the end of ourselves may be one of the biggest gifts and most important seasons in our walk with God.

SCRIPTURE - Mainly Matthew 26:31-35

DISCUSSION - You may consider selecting a couple of these to ensure you have space for break out time.

1. Mark shared how, throughout history, people like Augustine, Teresa of Avila, and John Wesley (and many others) have framed our walk with God as a lifelong journey of soul formation with different seasons of ups and downs rather than a straight line. Why is having that healthy framework of soul formation important, and what are the dangers of thinking that our relationship with God should always be “up and to the right?”
2. Read Matthew 26:31-35 - This passage being a display of Peter’s reliance on his own strength, and his subsequent failures, shows us that our strengths will not carry us all the way. Why is this an important lesson we need to learn, and how might have Peter felt after that?
3. When we are feeling disillusioned, hurting, or confused, it’s important we look for Jesus in the midst of the storm. Now look back in Matthew 26:31-35. Where is Jesus in this passage (and in Peter’s restoration in John 21), and why is that significant?
 - i. Leaders - the idea being here that Jesus already knew Peter would fail, and wasn’t shocked, and had a plan of restoration already in place.
4. Mark mentioned that Peter did two main things. 1) Peter faced his shadow, or his underlying fear that motivated and drove him, instead of running from his shadow. 2) Peter ran toward Jesus in his disillusionment instead of pulling away from Jesus. Which stood out to you, and why is that significant?

BREAK UP - As Mark has shared, we’ll get as much breakthrough in this series as we’ll put in work. Over the next number of weeks, we’ll be taking time in guys and ladies groups to process what God is doing in us, as well as share how we’re applying the practice the growth “homework” and how that experience has been. We’ll be asking similar questions every week.

1. What is God doing in you this week through this sermon series/passage?
2. Did you take time to apply the sermon & think through which of the 9 fears you relate with and at times motivate your behavior? If so, how did it go?
 - i. Reminder, this week’s practice was looking at a list of 9 fears or shadows. Part of experiencing abundant freedom is that we at times can do the “right things” and still have an underlying fear motivating or driving that.

Identifying what fear at times drives us is a first step to seeing where it exists in our life and getting free from it.

3. Is there anything you need to do coming out of this, and how can we as a group pray for you and support you in that?