

THE NEXT TURN

LIVE SENT | SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

BIG IDEA

You don't have to know the whole route to obey the next turn.

Sometimes we want God to show us the entire plan before we move. But throughout Scripture, God often gives enough direction for the **next step** and reveals more along the way.

Genesis 12:1

"Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you."

God told Abraham to **go**, and promised He would **show** him along the way.

START THE CONVERSATION

1. Have you ever used GPS and still missed a turn? What happened?
2. Which is harder for you: not knowing where God is leading, or knowing what He is asking you to do and actually doing it? Why?

1. YOU DON'T NEED THE WHOLE ROUTE

Sunday we learned:

MISSION is the destination.

PURPOSE is what God put in my car to equip me for the journey.

CALLING is the route God has me traveling.

ASSIGNMENT is the next turn He's asking me to take.

Read Genesis 12:1-4 together.

DISCUSS

- What did God tell Abraham?
- What information did God *not* give Abraham before asking him to move?
- Why do you think we sometimes want God to explain everything before we obey?
- Where in your life are you currently asking God for the whole route when He may already have shown you the next turn?

KEY TRUTH: Sometimes direction comes through obedience.

2. HOW DO I DISCERN MY NEXT TURN?

Sunday we talked about four things that can help us discern where God is leading.

GOD'S VOICE WILL NEVER CONTRADICT GOD'S WORD.

Read Psalm 119:105.

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

DISCUSS

- What is the difference between a lamp and a floodlight?
- Why is knowing Scripture important when trying to discern God's direction?
- Have you ever been looking for an answer when Scripture had already made God's will clear?

ASK YOURSELF: What has God already said?

PAY ATTENTION TO WHAT GOD HAS ALREADY PUT IN YOU.

Read Romans 12:6.

God has placed gifts, abilities, experiences, passions, and anointing in each of us.

DISCUSS

- What are some gifts or abilities God has placed in you?
- What do people consistently come to you for?
- Where have you consistently seen God use you?
- Is there something you tend to dismiss because it comes naturally to you?

ASK YOURSELF: What has God already put in me?

PAY ATTENTION TO WHAT KEEPS PULLING ON YOU.

Read Nehemiah 1:1-4.

Many people knew Jerusalem's walls were broken, but when Nehemiah heard about it, something happened inside of him. He couldn't simply hear about the problem and move on.

DISCUSS

- What people, needs, problems, or situations consistently pull on your heart?
- What bothers you that other people seem able to walk past?
- Is there something you frequently find yourself saying, "Somebody needs to do something about that"?
- Could that burden be pointing toward an area where God wants to use you?

SOMETIMES THE ANSWER IS: YOU'RE THE SOMEBODY.

LOOK AT WHAT GOD IS ASKING YOU TO DO IN THIS SEASON.

Your **calling** may remain consistent while your **assignment changes**.

DISCUSS

- What has God put in front of you right now?
- Who has God entrusted to you right now?
- Where is God asking you to serve right now?
- Is there an old assignment you may be holding onto even though God is giving you a new instruction?

KEY TRUTH: I cannot become so attached to the last instruction that I stop listening for the next one.

3. SOMETIMES THE SIGN IS DOWN THE ROAD

We often pray: “**God, give me confirmation, and then I’ll move.**” But sometimes confirmation comes **along the way**.

Some answers come along the way.

Some relationships come along the way.

Some resources come along the way.

Some doors become visible along the way.

DISCUSS

- Why do we sometimes use “waiting for confirmation” as a reason not to move?
- How can we distinguish between patiently waiting on God and being afraid to obey?
- Has God ever confirmed something for you after you took a step of obedience?

KEY TRUTH: The sign you’re praying for may already be on the road you’re afraid to travel.

4. WHAT IF I MISSED THE TURN?

RECALCULATING...

Maybe God told you to do something and you didn’t do it. Maybe fear stopped you. Maybe you made the wrong decision. Maybe you stayed somewhere too long. Maybe you went in the wrong direction.

A MISSED TURN DOESN’T HAVE TO BECOME YOUR PERMANENT ADDRESS.

You can repent. You can surrender. You can listen again. You can obey again.

DISCUSS

- Why can it be difficult to move forward after realizing we made a wrong decision?
- How can regret over yesterday keep us from obeying God today?
- What does repentance look like when we’ve gone in the wrong direction?

- What would it look like to stop focusing on the turn you missed and begin listening for God's next instruction?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

Take a quiet moment before answering.

What do I sense God saying to me right now?

Is there something God has already told me to do that I have delayed?

What fear, question, or uncertainty has been keeping me from moving?

WHAT IS MY NEXT TURN?

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

Don't try to figure out the entire route. Identify **one clear step of obedience** and take it this week.

Next time your group meets, be prepared to share:

"Here was my next turn, and here's what happened when I took it."

CLOSE IN PRAYER

LORD, LET ME HEAR.

Help me recognize Your voice above every competing voice.

LORD, LET ME SEE.

Help me recognize what You're doing and what You've placed in front of me.

LORD, GIVE ME COURAGE TO MOVE.

When I know what You're asking me to do, give me the courage to obey.

HERE I AM. SEND ME.