



Week 3

The Pineapple
Principle

The Opening Question

What is the most difficult task you have completed so far in 2019? Was it hard to start? How did you go about completing the task?

Watch the Video Clip

Key Teaching Points

The hardest part is starting!

There will always be a reason not to start.

NEXT STEP: Make the first cut!

Scripture

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Yet another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Luke 9:57-62, ESV

Discussion Questions

What was your biggest takeaway from today's teaching?

What is something you believe God is wanting you to do, but you haven't started yet?
What barriers or excuses are in the way?

What are some things that have helped you push through the excuses and barriers and enabled you to start something important in your life?

The best part of “the pineapple principle” is the end result of some fresh, delicious, sweet fruit which make it worth the work of cutting through the spiny, outer hull. What “sweet fruit” have you experienced in your life as a result of getting through the hard beginnings of a task or journey?

Many times in our lives, God uses another person (after all, we are BETTER TOGETHER) to encourage us to do “something hard” that we need to do. Who has been that person for you? How did they help you start something you didn’t think you could do?

In what ways can we as a group help each other start things that God wants us to do individually?

What is something that God maybe wanting us to do collectively together that we aren’t doing right now?

What is the “first cut” you are going to make today as a result of all we have talked about (and we are going to pray for you as you do that)?

Is there anything else we can pray for you about this week?

Pray

As you close in prayer together, lift up those “first cuts” to the Lord, asking Him to “help our unbelief” and grant us strength and courage as people in the group do the hard thing of STARTING today. Also, thank God for the sweet stuff He has allowed folks to experience as a result of the courage He has given to start hard things. Finally, ask God to show the group what He desires the group to start doing in order to be the group He wants it to be. And ask Him for the courage and wisdom to help you all as a group to make that first cut.