

Small Group Questions

9/20.15

Dale Oquist Speaking

GETTING TO KNOW YOU:

1. Have you ever been searching for something only to find it “right under your nose?”

RECAP:

We’ve all experienced looking so hard for something that it becomes hard to find, even in plain sight. We get this idea of where it might be and what it looks like where it might be – and when it isn’t there, our minds have a hard time “seeing” anything else. It is called a visual bias and it blinds us to anything other than what we think we should “see.”

It is also easy to miss Jesus even when he is right in front of us. There were groups of people in Jesus’ day that were looking very diligently for the Messiah. Their bias as to what Messiah would look like blinded them from seeing Jesus, even though Jesus fit the exact description of Messiah. Even the disciples had a difficult time grasping all that Jesus was communicating with them.

We continue our ReMastered series on Sunday – a series that shows the message of Jesus in high-definition. We explored both of the above scenarios- the religious mindsets of the Pharisees and Sadducees as well as the disciples’ mindset toward Jesus. We explored truth to keep us from missing Jesus so we can celebrate God’s presence among us.

2. Describe a bias that you had because of a pre-conceived notion or a first impression that you now view differently (like music, a place, a type of food, a person, etc)? What was the cause and how did you change that mindset?

DIGGING DEEPER:

verses: Matthew 16:1-12

The Parisees, the Saducees, *and* the disciples *all* missed Jesus because of their personal biases. A sure way to miss Jesus is to think you already know who he is and how he will act, talk and look.

3. What bias have you ever had about God? You had something in your mind about what God was going to do, how and when he was going to do it, and what it would look like.

Dale shared 3 observations from this passage with us: 1) If you are open to Jesus, he will show himself to you because “believing is seeing.” 2) You will miss Jesus if you think that God is being passive-aggressive. God is always direct. 3) You will miss Jesus if you focus on what you don’t have; your scarcity vs. God’s abundance.

4. When have you ever been blinded by any of those 3 mindsets? How did God open your eyes to see Jesus more clearly?

TAKING IT HOME:

5. In what way do you need to be more open to what God is doing all around you this week; even though it doesn’t fit the picture of what you imagined?

Missions Week | *Beyond My World* | October 4-11 Be prepared to be challenged with opportunities to get involved, make a difference and live *beyond your world*.

Join us on Wednesday nights at 7p If you don’t already have another class you attend on Wednesday nights, please join us at Peoples Church for our continuing series on Revelation.

Men | Bible Study – *Model Man* | begins Wednesday, September 23 at 7p (606/608)

Women | *Dream it, Do It* | Fall Conference | October 2-3 (PC Campus) Speaker: Caroline Barnett, LA Dream Center. Registration is \$35 (\$40 after 9/23)