IMPACT COMMUNITIES real life. real impact.

Sequoia Impact Communities are a place to experience real life & real impact.

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

The Power of God #5 of 10— August 5, 2018

- 1) Take some time to discuss how your IC has been and will live out the Kingdom of Jesus together.
 - In what ways have we been living out our **family** identity recently? How will we do this in the next couple weeks?
 - How have we lived as servants to one another or to our world this past week? What needs or opportunities to serve is God asking us to lean into?
 - How have we lived **on mission** where we live, work, play, or went this past week? Who do we know that needs to hear the good news of Jesus?

2) What did you find most helpful, encouraging, or challenging in this message?

3) Share about a powerful experience in nature you've had. How did it make you feel? How can we turn watching nature into a worshipful experience?

4) Have you ever had an experience where you felt God was speaking directly to you through a passage of the Bible? Share about it. What did he say? How did it impact you? What did you do about it?

5) Reflect on the Big Idea. What is your attitude about reading the Bible these days? Do you believe that God wants to speak powerfully into your life through the Bible?

6) What does an *empowered life* look like for a follower of Jesus? Are you living one, or do you feel you are living a *powerless* life?

7) One danger for Christians is chasing after powerful experiences rather than the person of Jesus. What can you do to make sure your heart is primarily chasing a deeper relationship with Jesus himself? What will you as an Impact Community do to help each other stay focused on pursuing Jesus through His Word?

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SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

The Power of God with Aaron Richert August 5, 2018



 ¹ Honor the Lord, you heavenly beings; honor the Lord for his glory and strength.
² Honor the Lord for the glory of his name. Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

- ³ The voice of the Lord echoes above the sea. The God of glory thunders.
- The Lord thunders over the mighty sea.
- ⁴ The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is majestic.
- ⁵ The voice of the Lord splits the mighty cedars; the Lord shatters the cedars of Lebanon.
- ⁶ He makes Lebanon's mountains skip like a calf; he makes Mount Hermon leap like a young wild ox.
- ⁷ The voice of the Lord strikes with bolts of lightning.
- ⁸ The voice of the Lord makes the barren wilderness quake; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- ⁹ The voice of the Lord twists mighty oaks and strips the forests bare. In his Temple everyone shouts, "Glory!"
- ¹⁰ The Lord rules over the floodwaters. The Lord reigns as king forever.
- ¹¹ The Lord gives his people strength. The Lord blesses them with peace.
- Psalm 29: God is the <u>Great</u> and <u>Powerful</u> One.
- When God <u>speaks</u>, God <u>acts</u> <u>powerfully</u>.

"The voice of the Lord..."



- God's power is <u>activated</u> by his <u>voice.</u>
 - Genesis 1: God spoke creation into being.
 - The Gospels: Jesus healed and cast out demons by his words.
 - Hebrews 4:12 "For the Word of God is <u>alive</u> and <u>powerful</u>. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires."

Big Idea: The <u>Power</u> of God is encountered in the <u>Word</u> of God.

- Question: Are you living an *empowered* life?
- A Danger: Chasing after <u>powerful</u> <u>experiences</u> instead of the <u>person of</u> <u>Jesus.</u>
- Instead, experience the <u>power</u> of God in your life by pursuing God's <u>voice</u> through <u>His Word</u>.

"Do not underestimate, then, how much the power of God can do in your life through the Bible. The voice of the Lord can break down even our strongest defenses, defuse our despair, free us from guilt, and lead us to him." (Timothy Keller)