

## SEQUOIA NOTES

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

**Greater Faith Leads to Greater Impact**

With Ryan Dawson, Lead Pastor

November 24, 2019

Greater Impact - First Gift Sunday

# GREATER IMPACT

Zechariah 8:9-13 “This is what the Lord of Heaven’s Armies says: Be strong and finish the task! Ever since the laying of the foundation of the Temple of the Lord of Heaven’s Armies, you have heard what the prophets have been saying about completing the building. <sup>10</sup> Before the work on the Temple began, there were no jobs and no money to hire people or animals. No traveler was safe from the enemy, for there were enemies on all sides. I had turned everyone against each other. <sup>11</sup> “But now I will not treat the remnant of my people as I treated them before, says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies. <sup>12</sup> For I am planting seeds of peace and prosperity among you. The grapevines will be heavy with fruit. The earth will produce its crops, and the heavens will release the dew. Once more I will cause the remnant in Judah and Israel to inherit these blessings. <sup>13</sup> Among the other nations, Judah and Israel became symbols of a cursed nation. But no longer! Now I will rescue you and make you both a symbol and a source of blessing. So don’t be afraid. Be strong, and get on with rebuilding the Temple!

- **Sequoia has been called to be a symbol and a source of blessing.**

**How will we fulfill God’s call to be a symbol and a source of blessing?**

Zechariah 3:8-10 (NLT) “Listen to me, O Jeshua the high priest, and all you other priests. You are symbols of things to come. Soon I am going to bring my servant, the Branch.<sup>9</sup> Now look at the jewel I have set before Jeshua, a single stone with seven facets. I will engrave an inscription on it, says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies, and I will remove the sins of this land in a single day. <sup>10</sup> And on that day, says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies, each of you will invite your neighbour to sit with you peacefully under your own grapevine and fig tree.”

1 Peter 2:9 (NLT) “...for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God’s very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.”

- **We receive and extend the grace of God found in Jesus Christ.**

Zechariah 4:6-7 (NLT) Then he said to me, “This is what the Lord says to Zerubbabel: It is not by force nor by strength, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies. <sup>7</sup> Nothing, not even a mighty mountain, will stand in Zerubbabel’s way; it will become a level plain before him! And when Zerubbabel sets the final stone of the Temple in place, the people will shout: ‘May God bless it! May God bless it!’”

- **We depend on God’s Spirit moment by moment.**

Zechariah 4:8-10 (NLT) Then another message came to me from the Lord: <sup>9</sup> “Zerubbabel is the one who laid the foundation of this Temple, and he will complete it. Then you will know that the Lord of Heaven’s Armies has sent me. <sup>10</sup> Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin, to see the plumb line in Zerubbabel’s hand.”

- **We step out in faith and engage in the work God has for us.**

**Big Idea: Live in grace, walk by faith, depend on the Spirit, & engage in God’s mission.**



**Sequoia Impact Communities are where we  
live out our identity as a  
Family of Servants on Mission.**

To get plugged in email:

**impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org**

**Greater Faith Leads to Greater  
Impact - #5 of 5 - Nov. 24, 2019**

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 like family recently? How will we live out our family identity in the coming week?
- 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) How did the message resonate with you? What questions or comments did it raise for you?

3) Describe a time when you felt like you were asked to do an impossible assignment or you were faced with something that felt impossible? What was that like for you?

4) Recount the different stories you can think of in the Bible where God asked people to do something impossible or people were faced with an impossible situation. What do we learn about God from this?

5) Read Zechariah 8:9-13. How do you think the remnant of Jewish people in Jerusalem would have reacted to this vision from God? How does God's vision for them differ from what they are currently experiencing? How can we relate to this as a people?

6) In relation to Zech. 8:9-13 - What will God do and what are God's expectations for his people? How does this relate to our situation?

7) Read and reflect on Zech. 3-8-10. What do we learn about the Messiah from this passage? How did Jesus fulfill this and why is this significant? Read 1 Peter 2:9. What does it mean for us to be "priests" and how does Jesus make this possible for us?

8) Read Zech. 4:6-7. Where have you been relying on your "force and your strength?" In what way is God asking you to depend on His Spirit?

9) Read Zech. 4:8-10. How does this passage encourage you? What do you sense God is saying to you today? What action steps do you need to take?



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