SEQUOIA NOTES

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

GREATER > IMPACT

And Even Greater Works

With Ryan Dawson, Lead Pastor November 3, 2019

How desperate are we for God to show up?

John 14:8-21 (NLT) Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹ Jesus replied, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don't know who I am? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! So why are you asking me to show him to you? 10 Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I speak are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me. 11 Just believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Or at least believe because of the work you have seen me do. 12 "I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father. 13 You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. 14 Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it! 15 "If you love me, obey my commandments, 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. ¹⁷ He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you. 18 No, I will not abandon you as orphans—I will come to you. 19 Soon the world will no longer see me, but you will see me. Since I live, you also will live, 20 When I am raised to life again, you will know that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹ Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them. And I will love them and reveal myself to each of them."

John 14:6 "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me."

- Jesus is One in essence with the Father.
- Therefore Jesus is a conduit for the words and work of God the Father.
- We are **One** with Christ by grace through faith.

John 14:18-21

Therefore we are a conduit for the words and work of Jesus.

John 14:12-14

John 15:5 (NLT) "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing."

• Prayer is the mechanism that ensures we stay connected to Christ.

John 14:15-17

Oswald Chambers "Prayer does not equip us for greater works— **prayer is the greater work.** Yet we think of prayer as some commonsense exercise of our higher powers that simply prepares us for God's work. In the teachings of Jesus Christ, prayer is the working of the miracle of redemption in me, which produces the miracle of redemption in others, through the power of God." (October 17)

Big Idea: Prioritize prayer as the <u>greater work</u>, to see more lives impacted for Christ.

How do we prioritize prayer today?

• Pray for personal renewal.

"Prayer is the working of the miracle of redemption in me, which produces the miracle of redemption in others, through the power of God." Oswald Chambers

- Pray for missional <u>urgency</u>.
- Pray for Kingdom <u>partnerships</u>.
- Pray for wisdom for our leadership.
- Pray for discernment on how much to give.

Imagine what God would do if we really sought Him for greater impact.

"When you labour at prayer, from God's perspective there are always results. What an astonishment it will be to see, once the veil is finally lifted, all the souls that have been reaped by you, simply because you have been in the habit of taking your orders from Jesus Christ." Oswald Chambers



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

And Even Greater Works #2 of 5 — November 3, 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 is 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) What do you think of when you think of prayer? How would you define prayer?
- 4) Read John 14:8-21. What do we learn about Jesus from this passage? What implications are there to the claims He is making about His identity?
- 5) Reflect on John 14:18-21 and Eph. 2:8-10. In what way are we to be a conduit of the "words and work" of Jesus as individuals and as an Impact Community? Discuss some practical examples of what this could look like in our day to day life.
- 6) Read John 15:5 and John 14:16-21. How does prayer relate to the empowering of the Holy Spirit?
- 7) Oswald Chambers describes prayer as "the greater work". In what way is this the case and how does Jesus suggest the same thing in John 14:12-14.
- 8) How is God asking you to prioritize the greater work of prayer? Take time as an Impact Community to pray about the following...
- Pray for personal renewal.
- Pray for missional urgency.
- Pray for Kingdom partnerships.
- Pray for wisdom for our leadership.
- Pray for discernment on how much to give.



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