



August 25, 2019

DIGGING DEEPER

John 2:1-12

The purpose of this document is to help us
take the word beyond our Sunday gathering
and to **think through the practical**
implications of the Scriptures and then to
be intentional about living the word out.

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Willing to Wait

John 2:1-5; Luke 2:39-52; Luke 3:23; John 17:1-5; Genesis 16:1-6

Questions Worth Asking

Jesus knew who he; and those who were at the Jordan River when he was baptized found out. Jesus is God the Son, and he was sent to earth to take away the sins of the world. Yet, Jesus wasn't itching for an opportunity to blow the minds of people and reveal himself to them. The King of kings and Lord of lords was willing to wait until the hour had come for him to be exalted. He submitted himself to the earthly authority that was placed over him, obeying the directions of his mother even though he created her. It was through his submission and humility that Jesus showed his strength and confidence in the purpose and plan his Father sent him to fulfill. We too must be willing to wait on God's timing and not rush to see God's plan come to pass. Too often we become impatient and "help" God get things in place for that which we believe he has instore for us. God doesn't need our help, but he desires our partnership. We must be willing to wait on the Lord in order to partner with him and see his purpose for our lives come to pass.

1. What causes you to feel like the Lord is taking too long to do the things he has promised in his word?

Digging Deeper Discussion:

- Why do we feel like God is taking a long time when he didn't give us an exact timeline?
- What has been your experience when you have gotten ahead of God?
- How has a society built on instant gratification impacted our willingness to wait?

2. How has trust in someone's character affected your willingness to wait on that person to make good on a future promise?

Digging Deeper Discussion:

- What does the character of God communicate to you about the promises God makes?
- How has experiencing God's faithfulness helped you to have faith that he will be faithful in the future?
- How did waiting on the promise give you a better appreciation for the promise when you received it?

Steps Worth Taking

Here are some steps that will help you strengthen your trust in the Lord....

1. **Read and meditate on [Isaiah 55:6-11](#).**
2. Write out a time when you saw God work things out in your life.
Share that story with someone who hasn't heard it before.
3. Write down a situation that you are struggling to see how it will work out.
Share that story with the Lord and **read [Romans 8:28](#)**.
4. Make it a practice to read and meditate on the word daily. I suggest setting aside 30 minutes. You can read for 15 minutes and meditate on what you read for 15 minutes.
You won't trust in someone you don't know. It is imperative that we spend time in the word so we may know the character of God.

Available Vessel

John 2:6-9; Ephesians 6:1-3; Hebrews 13:17; Romans 12:1-2

Questions Worth Asking

Mary told the disciples to do whatever Jesus told them. Like the six empty jars that were available to be filled, the disciples stood at the ready waiting for Jesus to fill them with his direction. And upon receiving the instructions, the disciples did exactly what Jesus commanded. They did the laborious task of filling six stone jars with 180 gallons of water. They didn't know why Jesus was asking them to do this or how it would solve the issue of not having enough wine for the wedding party. Yet, in non-Western culture form, they didn't question their Rabbi. They knew who he was and trusted what he said. So it was their responsibility to simply be available vessels for the Master's use. It is not our place to question the person who saved our lives. It should be our position to make ourselves available vessels for the Savior's use by giving him our lives. When we are willing to be available to do whatever the Lord tells us we will be positioned to see mighty works done in us and through us. When we make ourselves available vessels we are in a prime position to witness a mighty move of God.

1. How has the busyness of living in the 21st century impacted peoples willingness to be available vessels?

Digging Deeper Discussion:

- How has the uncomfortable nature of the task impacted your willingness to do the work the Lord commanded?
- Why do people today oftentimes feel the need to meet a command with questioning?
- What does questioning the leader communicate about your views of leadership, the Lord, and yourself?

2. What did it feel like when you were willing to take a leap of faith because of a word from the Lord?

Digging Deeper Discussion:

- How has living by faith allowed you to experience the faithfulness of God in breathtakingly beautiful ways?
- What impact has seeing someone else serve the Lord faithfully had on your walk with Jesus?
- How does knowing God and his provisions influence your perspective towards doing "hard" work for him?

Steps Worth Taking

Here are some steps that will help you remain available for the Master's use...

1. **Schedule period(s) of rest in your day.** Allow for at least a total of 30 minutes. That could be one stretch, broken up into three 10 minute blocks, etc. During this time you should sit in silence and meditate on the goodness of the Lord.

The more we can make a practice of making space to be still and pursue the presence of our Creator, the more we will be willing to make ourselves available for the One we pursue.

2. Reach out to Phil Lauria ([click here](#)) and ask where he can plug you in to partner with God in serving this faith family.
3. Pray for your pastors, faith family and the Walltown Community.

A Glance of Glory

John 2:10-12; Genesis 22; Exodus 17:8-16; John 1:40-41, 43-45; John 7:1-7

Questions Worth Asking

All participants at the party were able to taste that the wine that Jesus provided was good. But only a select few got to taste and see the manifested glory of God the Son. Being willing to trust and obey the Lord positioned the disciples to see a miracle of God. This moment produced the manifested glory of Son right before their very eyes. They were able to witness a power like none other they have ever seen before. And as a result, their faith in the Messiah was deepened. When we position ourselves to watch God work, we always walk away with a deeper appreciation for who God is and what he can do. This realization, due to a wonderful revelation, will help us to have a firmer footing in the faith that we have in Christ. In order to get a glance of the glory of God, we must be willing to do his work, sharing his love and spreading his gospel in words and deeds. When we give our lives in service to the Lord he gives us the joy of his presence. May we continually position ourselves to get a glance of glory every day.

1. What has caused you to miss a move of God in the past?

Digging Deeper Discussion:

- What causes the momentary pleasures of disobedience to override the joy of being positioned to see God's glory?
- How have you seen disobedience cause people to care less and less about seeing Jesus?
- How does sinful choices and/or lifestyle dull the spiritual senses of even the believer to the presence of the Lord?

2. In what ways has experiencing a move of God cause you to see God in a new and beautiful way?

Digging Deeper Discussion:

- How have you viewed the sacrifices you made in service to God after you experienced the gift of God's presence?
- Why have you been willing to give up your comfort in service to Christ?
- What has God revealed to you about himself as you have served him in the faith family and the community?

Steps Worth Taking

Here are some steps that will help you be positioned to get a glance of glory...

1. **Read and meditate on [Mark 12:29-31](#)**
2. Reach out to Phil Lauria ([click here](#)) and ask where he can plug you in to partner with God in serving this faith family.
3. Follow the God-ordained leadership placed in your life.
4. Be a person of prayer and the word. Set aside time to be before the Lord morning, noon and night. Set aside time in the morning, afternoon and evening to center your focus on the Lord you love.