

**Make a Difference**

Kris Brenes

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. <sup>18</sup>I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, <sup>19</sup>and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength <sup>20</sup>he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. Ephesians 1:17-21

**Our hope for you...**

- Know God
- Grow in Christ
- Discover Purpose
- Make a Difference

**What you do can make an eternal difference.****You can make a difference...**

- With those closest to you
- In our church
- In your community

**Three ways you can make a difference...**

- Pray
- Give
- Go

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup>Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. <sup>38</sup>Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." Matthew 9:36-38

**Connect**

- What have you faced that you felt totally unqualified to do?

**Word and Reflection**

God is an expert at using reluctant, unqualified people to make a difference. He created you to know Him. He wants you to use the gifts He's given you to make a difference in the lives of others. You can make an eternal difference with those who are closest to you, in our church and your community. You can start by taking small steps to pray, give and go.

Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 6:38; Matthew 9:36-38

- Which part of the message made an impact, caught your attention or challenged you?
- Read Ephesians 1:15-23. In this scripture, Paul prays that the Christians in Ephesus would know God, grow in Christ, discover purpose and make a difference. Which of the four do you feel is strongest in your life? Which area would you like to grow in confidence? Explain.
- Pray, give and go are three ways you can make a difference. Discuss with your group the important role each play in seeing people come to know Christ.
- Read Matthew 9:36-38. Are you moved with compassion for the harvest of people who don't yet know Christ? Think about the people who are closest to you. Share some ways you can make a difference in their lives. What practical steps can you take to show them Christ's love?

**Action**

- Take a step to make a difference this week with those closest to you, in our church or in your community.
- Participate in *40 Days of Breakthrough Prayer*. Together, let's pray big, faith-filled, God-honoring prayers trusting that our God is able to do *immeasurably more than we ask or imagine* (Ephesians 3:20)

**Prayer**

- Lord, I ask for a greater understanding of who You are so *that* I can know You better and You would work through me to make a difference in the world.