

THE BIG IDEA CURRICULUM
It's All About Perspective
Sermon 14.08.10
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Small Group Study for Week of August 15-20

The Big Idea

It's About Perspective!

Sometimes you may find yourself asking God 'WHY'. Maybe the things that are happening in your life don't make sense. Maybe you see certain things and you just don't understand how God is working.

In this situation you have two choice:

1. Focus on the DRAIN, STRAIN, and the PAIN of the moment of WHY

OR

2. Have the perspective of FAITH: even though everything around you may point to God not helping you or God not being there, have FAITH that He still is there. Have FAITH that He never leaves you. Have FAITH that He will get you through what ever situation you find yourself in, no matter how tough it is.

How Do We Move From A Moment of WHY too a Moment of OK?

Ask the above question then group read the following:

1. Habakkuk 2:4
2. 1 Corinthians 10:13
3. Isaiah 41:13

Comments

Habakkuk 2:4

"...the just shall live by FAITH..." It's about about having the perspective of faith. This means that even when the things around us don't make sense and the things which God is doing (or not doing) doesn't seem logical, FAITH is trusting God through all of this. FAITH is trusting that He

will

get us through regardless of the situation.

1 Corinthians 10:13

This verse shows us that God will not allow us to go through anything that we will not handle. Sometimes this is hard to believe. But in moments like these we need to lean on this promise that we will never go through anything we can't handle without God. Have FAITH that God will come through. But the best bit is that when we are in a situation, a moment of WHY, God will always give us a way out. He will always be there to help us through.

So have the perspective of 1 Cor. 10:13.

Isaiah 41:13

The last part of this verse speaks about God holding our right hand. What a personal thing for God to do. Sometimes when we are in moments of WHY it's hard to see God like this. But this verse reminds us that even though at times it may seem like we are alone, God tells us that He is right next to us holding our hand through it all. So have a perspective of Isaiah 41:13.

The Doing

So how do we put all of this into practice?

What are some practical methods of adopting the Big Idea?

- Discuss

My Suggestions:

- i. Changing you Perspective is hard! So deciding to do this in your life is not an easy thing at all. But at the end of the day you have two choice:

1. Focus on the DRAIN, STRAIN, and the PAIN

OR

2. Have the perspective of FAITH: even though everything around you may point to God not helping you or God not being there, have FAITH that He still is there. Have FAITH that He never leaves you. Have FAITH that He will get you through what ever situation you find yourself in, no matter how tough it is.

ii. It may be hard but what have you got to lose? If you chose the first option (to focus on the WHY) all that comes from this is consuming pain.

iii. But if we chose to take up the challenge of option 2 you can give the DRAIN, STRAIN, and the PAIN of the WHY to God, let Him provide healing. Trust that He will help you through just like He promised throughout the Bible. He WILL come through; it may not be in your time, but He always comes through at the right time.

The Challenge

The next time you find yourself in a moment of WHY challenge yourself to remember that it's all about PERSPECTIVE. Come at moments of WHY with a perspective of FAITH: Even though you may not understand whats going on, when human logic may fail, TRUST that God will never put you through anything you can't handle. He always helps us through the hard times (1 Cor. 10:13).

Even though it may be hard, remember that its all perspective: You can focus on the DRAIN, STRAIN, and the PAIN, or have a perspective of FAITH that God will get you though even in the times when things don't make sense.

But What If I Find It Hard to Change My Perspective? For Me It's Not that Easy...

Surround yourself with other believers. This is what the Church is for. The church is community, CCCC is community. If you find it hard to change your perspective then surround yourself with people who can, ask them to pray for you. God will come through for you but if you need a bit of help look to your Small Group, look to the community of Christ.

Other Questions

- Is it ok to ask God WHY?

- Habakkuk in the original hebrew means: to embrace

- What does it mean to embrace God in moments of WHY?