

Discussion Guide

09/01/2024

Reflections

Pastor Daniel Groves

Main Idea

This week as we enter into our reflections mini-series, we are taking a moment to explore what it looks like to reflect the Heart, Will, and Presence of God to a world in desperate need of something different. When we dive into the Bible and encounter the WAY of God through the Word of God, we see that God's intention for a relationship with us is that His presence would transform us into a REFLECTION of Him.

Anchor Verse:

"As a face is reflected in water, so the heart reflects the real person. " (Proverbs 27:19 NLT)

Read: 2 Kings 4:1-7

1. We Have To Ask

"One of the greatest tragedies in life is the prayers that go unanswered because they go unasked" - Pastor Darius Daniels. We see God's provision when we adjust our budget to include tithes and offerings. Faith-filled, generous giving will lead to blessings and further the mission of the church.

How can we identify and overcome the barriers that prevent us from making specific, bold requests to God and preparing ourselves to receive His blessings? What are some practical ways we can demonstrate our faith through our actions, like budgeting, tithing, or other forms of generosity, to prepare for the blessings we are asking God for?

2. We Have To Participate

In 2 Kings 4:5, the widow followed Elisha's instructions, filling pots with oil until she had no more pots left. The story highlights the importance of preparing for blessings.

How can we practically make room in our lives for the blessings we are praying for, and what steps can we take to ensure we are prepared to receive them? What are some

examples from your own life where preparing in faith led to unexpected blessings or opportunities?

3. **We Have To Prepare For Overflow**

The widow's story shows that God provides abundantly, not just enough to meet needs but with a surplus. As believers, we should trust in God's unlimited provision despite worldly challenges, knowing that He owns everything and will provide for the vision He gives.

How can we actively prepare for the overflow that God promises, and what changes might we need to make in our faith and actions to fully embrace His abundant provision? In what areas of your life might you be limiting God's ability to provide abundance, and how can you adjust your perspective and actions to better align with His nature as a God of more than enough?

SUMMARY

God is calling us to take action with our time, talents, and generosity. We need to prioritize and seriously engage in our faith, finishing the year strong by living boldly and audaciously. It's easy to become complacent, missing church or not serving, assuming others will step in. Like the unified early church, we must all contribute to meet needs, whether with small or large offerings. Our participation reflects our compassion and generosity, showing others a glimpse of Jesus. Every act of giving and service is crucial because it supports the church and its mission, impacting lives, including our own.

CALL TO ACTION

1. Reflect on your current prayer practices. Are there specific, bold requests you've hesitated to make? Take time to identify these and bring them before God, asking with faith and expectation.
2. Reflect on how you currently participate in your faith community. Are there areas where you could contribute more actively, whether through volunteering, attending services, or supporting church initiatives? Make a plan to increase your involvement.
3. Evaluate your life and resources to determine if you are truly prepared for God's abundance. Reflect on areas where you might be limiting God's provision due to a lack of preparation or expectation. Create a plan to expand your capacity to receive and steward blessings.

GROUP LEADER RESOURCE

Game: House on Fire

Ask the members of your group to imagine the following scenario: “Your house is on fire, and everyone is safe. You have 30 seconds to run through the house and collect three or four articles you want to save. What would you grab? Why?”

After everyone has done this, the group can discuss what they learned about the things they value.