



Group Notes

Use these questions to get ready for your group discussion.

Getting Started

1. Did you take time this week to tell someone about Jesus, Compass Point or about what God is doing in your life right now? If you have, please share the experience with your group. If you haven't, don't worry some weeks are like that :-) ... Begin now to look for opportunities.

2. This week every group needs to zero in on the service project for the semester. Come to group with ideas and ready to talk about them. Do not pass this question without making a decision this week!!!

3. Take some time this week and go back over your notes from Sunday's sermon or maybe even go back and listen to the podcast for a reminder. Use the space below to right down the main idea, things you've learned and questions you need answered. (You will have a chance to go over these in your group this week)

4. Discuss a time in your life when something good happened to you unexpectedly (received some money, wedding proposal, promotion, etc....)

a. What was your emotional reaction to this event?

b. What made this event so special?

Digging Deeper

Sometimes the timing of an event makes all the difference. Sunday Pastor Chris talked about Peter and John healing the lame man who was at the Temple Gate, "Beautiful". The account recorded in Acts 3:1-10 is a great example of God knowing the better fix for a problem. The lame man wanted financial relief but God had something bigger and infinitely better in mind for Him.

Not only was God's healing of the lame man through His servants Peter and John "better" than what the man was asking for; it was also done in God's timing to both help the man and bring glory to God. This goes to show God knows what is best for all concerned.

5. Read Isaiah 55:8-13 and jot down any thoughts, insights or questions you have as you read.

6. The Israelites had the habit (as we do) of assuming that they knew what God was thinking. In the verses we just read we heard from God concerning this. What do the verses say about the differences between the way we think and the way God thinks?

a. What about the power God has to accomplish His will by His word (verse 11)? What does this mean for us?

7. As we look at these verses, we have to understand that God wants and knows what is best for us (Matthew 6:8). There is nothing wrong with wanting things like comfort, financial peace and physical healing; these things are fine on their own. The problem comes when we fixate ourselves on the pursuit of these things and ignore God. The lame man from Acts 3 was interested only in his immediate need, but God wanted more for him. He used him then as He is using him now to show God's power. What does this information mean for you today?