

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

MAR. 8 & 9 - ACTS 18 - APOLLOS: DISCIPLESHIP

OPENING QUESTION

Last week we talked about being a “bridge builder” with those in your circle of influence. Did anyone have any great conversations this past week?

BIG IDEA

God has specifically shaped you to have maximum impact for Him.

READ TOGETHER

Acts 18:24-28

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

How do we have our “Maximum Impact for God” (MIFG)?

Good news – We have the Sovereign Hand of God

1. The Apostles and those we read about in Acts are having great impact for God, yet it's not that they were just better at it than us, or more bold or intelligent. In fact, much of what they accomplished, were instances that God set up. It was God's hand. It was His hand that made things happen. When have you seen God's sovereign hand in your life? Describe some memories or moments that just had to be God's hand?
2. *“Humility is the willingness to submit to God in the circumstances that He brings into our lives”*
 - Read – Romans 8:28
 - *“God sees the whole movie of our lives, but we only see the one scene!”* What do you need to trust God for? What do you need to give to Him? What is the current circumstance that in humility and faith, you need to give to God, trusting that it will be for the good?

More good news – We have good people in our lives

1. *“You don't know what you don't know... and you need other people to help you see things differently.”* God brought Priscilla and Aquila into the life of Apollos to help him get some points of theology straightened out; to help shape him so he could have his maximum impact for God. Apollos was doing well before, but after this, he was doing even better! When has God brought people into your life to speak wisdom and increase the “horsepower” in your life? What was it about and how were you challenged/changed?
2. Who do you have now who speaks into your life? Do you allow them access and freedom to speak? If you feel bold, share an instance where they challenged you.
3. Where do you wish you had mentorship? What prompts that desire?
 - Leadership?
 - Finances?
 - Marriage?
 - Parenting?
 - Spiritual life and Discipleship?
 - Sport?
 - Navigating difficult circumstances?
4. Priscilla and Aquila took a bold step, and took Apollos aside (privately) and explained with humility what needed to change. Have you ever spoken into someone's life? Did it feel like a risk? What was the outcome?

BECOMING
PART OF THE
**RIPPLE
EFFECT**



More good news - We have the gifting of the Holy Spirit

1. “God desires to use that special gifting he has given to you to help teach others and equip others.” He used Pricilla and Aquila’s gifting to “sharpen” Apollos. What do you sense God has gifted you with?
 - We are given gifts from God for a lifetime... things that are just built into our DNA. Things that we have always been good at. But, we are also given gifts based on certain circumstances, right out of left field, for the purposes of the Kingdom.
 - Have you ever had a special instance of gifting that surprised you? Something short term, a burst of ability or gifting that God gave to you?
 - How have you used your gifting for the edification and encouragement of the church?
 - How do you think you can, or should be using it? How can you be using your gift well? The purpose of all gifts is to ultimately lead people to Christ. How can your gifting help this cause?

PRAYER

More good news – God uses ordinary people, and as ordinary people follow Christ they are given a desire to pursue their MIFG

1. So let’s pray for:
 - Equipping that can only come from God
 - A vision of how we can and should be having our maximum impact for God
 - Boldness in reaching for it
 - Humility in our conversations with others, and our trust in God
 - Impact that ultimately leads to others coming to know Christ
 - People to speak into our lives, and the wisdom to speak into others
 - Perspective that is beyond ourselves, so we may trust in God’s sovereignty, even in the midst of pain, confusion or suffering
 - A change of heart that takes us, and all who follow Christ from a consumer/observer to an active participant
 - Understanding of our gifts, and how we can be using them most effectively for God’s Kingdom

NEXT STEP

“The easiest thing in the world is to live for ourselves. We often ask what can I do to have maximum impact for me? But, what would your life look like if you were having maximum impact for God?” This is the challenge extended to us this weekend. This week as you read scripture, pray and talk to others... think on this. Ask God about this. Listen to the Holy Spirit and write down what you believe He is saying to you or challenging you in.

- Write down **MIFG** somewhere to remind yourself!

NEXT STEP AS A GROUP

“Your Divine Design” by Chip Ingram

- This is an 8 week group study available on Right Now Media. Use it as a group, or if any individuals would like to do this, just contact Ryan (rbrammer@rockpointe.ca) to receive free access to this study.

“Finding Your S.H.A.P.E.” by Rick Warren

- This would be beneficial both as a group study and an individual study
- Download the sermon messages or order the group material, here – rickwarren.org/series/shaped-to-make-a-difference

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