



Feb. 15, 2015

Step Up...The Small Things Genesis 4:1-10

Introduction

God wants us to experience Him in every area of life. We were meant for more of Him. This involves stepping up and doing the small things in life, things we don't think about. It takes faith to accomplish the small and big things of life. "Without faith it is impossible to please God." (Hebrews 11:6) Cain & Abel brought gifts before God (Genesis 4:1-10), however, there is a small gap between giving and generosity.

Discussion Questions

1. We learned that "doing the big things for God starts with the small things because of God" and everything we do in our life is a spiritual act because of our belief in God. Why do you think the small things in life are really important to consider? Is there a small thing in your life that needs your attention?
2. "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much." Luke 16:10 We don't wake up one day and become a high performing athlete, a renowned concert pianist, an honor student, or a professional in some career. In what ways does stepping up to do the small things assist a person in becoming successful in a particular area? What are some ways you feel God has helped you make a change in order to arrive at various accomplishments?
3. The story of Cain and Abel have many lessons about how to live to please God (Genesis 4:1-10). They both brought a gift before God; however, Pastor David stated there is a small gap between giving and being generous. Abel brought the fat (the best) before God. Describe this deeper level of faith and trust exhibited by Abel? What would this look like in areas such as finances, family, work, leisure, time, talent, etc.? What small steps can a person take to achieve (the best)?
4. The difference between giving & generosity is:
 - Giving is action...Generosity is attitude.
 - Giving is obligation...Generosity is joy.
 - Giving is holding out...Generosity is sacrificing.
 - Giving is an act...Generosity is a life style
 - Giving is God being a part of your life...Generosity is God being the priority in your life.In examining your life, would you lean toward giving or generosity most of the time or some of the time and why?
5. There is a small gap of being selfless and living selflessly. Can you share a time where you benefited from someone being selfless? How was Jesus selfless for you?
6. "If we are living now by the Holy Spirit, let us follow the Holy Spirit's leading in every part of our lives." Galatians 5:25 We need to be willing to discipline ourselves in order to experience God in every area of life allowing the Holy Spirit to lead. How can the Holy Spirit assist you in living a more disciplined spiritual life in taking the small steps?

Conclusion

"I can do all things (big & small) through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13