



GROUP ICE BREAKER

When a store has both types of check-out lanes open, do you chose self-check out or a human cashier? Why?

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week? How did it go?

- I will work to forget the shame and guilt from my past.
- I will remember the cross and the freedom found there.

MESSAGE SUMMARY

This week we looked at the idea of mountain moving prayer because we believe we serve a mountain moving God. Whatever mountain you face, God still has the power to move mountains.

Here's what Jesus asks of His followers, you and me. Jesus says, "See that mountain? That's going to be moved; that's going to be cast into the sea." And it was. Don't ever be defeated by a mountain, because that mountain can move. Where does that kind of strength come from? One single word: Prayer. Ask yourself, if God can move one mountain in your life, what would it be?

Our God is still in the mountain moving business, and Blue Oaks is a place where people pray.

But here's the thing, if you focus on the mountain, you can feel it in your spirit. You can get overwhelmed, anxious, or feel inadequate. You can get preoccupied with yourself and your own life. It chokes all the joy in life out of you — until you turn back around and look at this mountain moving God, and then you're reminded, It's not about you. It's not about how strong you are or smart you are or clever you are. It's just about God. And your job is just to turn to Him.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. The Temple had practices and different divisions, barriers that left people feeling separated from God. What are the barriers churches create today that keep people separated from God? How can those barriers be removed?
2. In this story, we see Jesus in a different light, mad and overturning tables. Does this impact your image of Jesus? If so, how? In what ways is his anger different from the image of an “angry God” that many outside of faith have?
3. Read Matthew 21:21-22 and Hebrews 11:1, 6. Describe faith in your own words. How does faith differ from hope?
4. Jesus said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” What keeps you from believing that God can make the impossible possible and move your mountain? What can you do this week to stop focusing on the mountain and start focusing on God?
5. What is a mountain in your life you want God to move? If you’re comfortable, share it with the group and pray for each other at the end of your time together.
6. Do you have a story of God moving a mountain for you? If so, share it with the group.

NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

Use these as a guide to take your next step and commit to what you learned this week:

- I commit to pray for a mountain to move in my life.
- I will pray like I believe all things are possible with God.
- I will persevere in prayer to the end of 2021.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Mark 11:11-24
- Isaiah 56:7
- Matthew 19: 26