Great Things — Group Discussion Guide

Main Idea: God has done great things, and He's not finished yet. We are called to remember His faithfulness, believe for what He can do in the future, and faithfully participate in His work today.

Opening Prayer & Icebreaker

Icebreaker: What's something in your life today that you once hoped, dreamed, or prayed for?

Introduction

In this message, Pastor Mark walks through Psalm 126, a passage celebrating God's restoration of His people after a difficult season of exile.

The psalm reminds us that God has done great things in the past, that we can trust Him for the future, and that we have a role to play in what He is doing. Sometimes God moves suddenly, like streams flowing through a desert. Other times, He calls us to faithfully plant seeds and trust Him with the harvest.

Discussion Questions

1. Remember: The Lord Has Done Great Things

Read Psalm 126:1–3.

The Israelites looked back and celebrated what God had restored. Pastor Mark reminded us that sometimes the things we once dreamed about become so familiar that we forget we ever prayed for them.

- Why is it sometimes easy to forget the ways God has been faithful to us?
- What's something God has done in your life that you need to pause and celebrate?
- How can regularly remembering and celebrating God's faithfulness change our perspective?

2. Recognize: The Lord Will Do Great Things

Read Psalm 126:4 and Ephesians 3:20–21.

The psalm shifts from remembering what God has already done to asking Him to bring restoration again.

- Why is it important to both celebrate what God has done and continue believing for what He can do?

- Pastor Mark compared God's restoration to streams suddenly flowing through a dry desert. Have you ever experienced God working in an unexpected way or at an unexpected time?
- Is there an area of your life where you're currently praying and trusting God to do something you can't accomplish on your own?

3. Respond: Sow, Reap, Carry

Read Psalm 126:5–6.

Pastor Mark reminded us that sometimes God moves suddenly, while other times He works through our consistent faithfulness. We are called to keep sowing even when we can't see the results.

- What does it look like to faithfully "sow seeds" in our everyday lives?
- Why is it difficult to remain faithful when we don't see immediate results?
- Who has invested in your life in a way that helped you become who you are today? How could you make that same kind of investment in someone else?

4. Expect Great Things, Attempt Great Things

Read John 12:23–24.

Pastor Mark shared William Carey's challenge to "Expect great things from God. Attempt great things for God." He also pointed to Jesus, whose death and resurrection made new life possible for us.

- What's the difference between simply hoping God will do something and actively participating in His work?
- How does Jesus' example of sacrifice help us understand what it means to sow faithfully?
- What is one way God might be inviting you to invest your time, talents, or resources to make a difference in someone else's life?

Personal Reflection

Pastor Mark challenged us to remember what God has done, recognize what He can still do, and respond with faithfulness.

- Which of these three areas do you most need to focus on right now?
- Is there something you've been waiting for God to do while overlooking an opportunity to take a step of faith?

Closing Prayer

Thank God for the great things He has already done in our lives. Pray for faith to believe that He is still working, even in seasons that feel dry or difficult.

Ask God to show each person how they can participate in His work through generosity, serving, encouraging others, and sharing the good news of Jesus.

This Week's Challenge

Remember, Recognize, Respond.

This week, put these three things into practice:

- **Remember:** Identify one way God has been faithful in your life and intentionally thank Him for it.
- **Recognize:** Spend time praying about an area where you need God to bring restoration or growth.
- **Respond:** Take one practical step to invest in someone else's life through your time, talents, or generosity.

Remember: God is able to do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine. Expect great things from God, and be willing to attempt great things for Him.