

GAME ON

WK. 5 - GROUP DISCUSSION

"Give, Go, Serve" - Message by Shawn Johnson

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer this question:

If you could have coffee with anyone in the world (past or present), who would it be? Why? What would you ask them?

SHARE

Welcome back to our series, "Game On." Originating in sports, the phrase "game on" really just means, "I'm ready;" Ready for the challenge, ready for the unknown, ready to put fear aside and take on whatever is to come. As you know, we have talked a lot about facing those things that challenge us and leaning into God and trusting his power and faithfulness.

In this week's message, we learned about big transitions that are happening here at Red Rocks Church, and Shawn challenged all of us to get involved. You see, since the inception of The Church, God has been advancing his kingdom and he has never called his followers to be quiet or comfortable. In fact, it's quite the opposite. As Christ followers, we are called to be courageous, bold, and sacrificial.

When Christ speaks about his kingdom, he's talking about a movement in the hearts of his people. At Red Rocks Church we believe that this movement -- this radical, transformational journey -- begins with hearing the gospel of Jesus Christ. Because of that, we refuse to sit idly and wait for people to come to us and because of that; we are compelled to move toward them. That's how we feel called to make heaven more crowded.

Read:

Matthew 11:12

Acts 2:41

Mark 16:15

Luke 9:1-2

Matthew 10:6-7

Luke 24:46-48

What stands out to you about these passages?

What is the first thing that comes to mind when you read these?

GROW

It's easy for us to hear a message like the one we all heard this week, think of all the things that we already do, make a mental check mark, and shove it out of our minds as something that does not apply to us. We can also hear a message like this and feel some guilt (for some of us; maybe that is for good reason).

It is really important that we not view what God is calling us to do as a list that can be completed, because it's a lot bigger than that. All through the New Testament Jesus reiterates over and over how important our heart posture is when we do what we do. The truth of the matter is that a truly generous person will give and continue to look for ways to give. A true servant will never finish the task of serving. A person with a true heart for the lost will never see enough people come into the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

Looking at it this way; let's take a look at the early church.

Read:

Acts 2:41-47

Does this passage bring anything to mind?

What does this body of believers look like to you?

What is being communicated by their actions?

The New Bible Commentary says this:

"The new converts didn't merely add Christianity to their already busy lives, but devoted themselves to their Christian experience...The believers displayed a generous attitude toward possessions. But there was no blind rush to 'rid themselves of all their possessions', as if personal property was in itself evil, instead they gave as there was the need. The believers' problems were not automatically and miraculously solved by virtue of becoming Christians. The believers continued every day to meet in the temple courts, as well as in their homes, where they shared table fellowship."

Does anything stand out to you about this perspective on what took place in the early church?

How do giving, going, and serving look in this early church?

These were largely new believers. In what ways does this change (or does it?) for people who are already Christ followers?

MOVE

In his message, Shawn challenged everyone. There is not a single person who calls Red Rocks Church home that isn't being asked to participate in the mission of this church. What that participation looks like for each person is different. But what isn't different is the importance of each and every one of us to taking ownership of how God is asking us to get involved.

When faced with challenges and change, we often cling to what is comfortable and easy because it calms us, it comforts us, and it makes us feel safe. The problem is, we have a mission and it doesn't value safety, calm, and "comfortability" above what needs to be accomplished.

Read:

Joshua 1:8-10

Does anything stand out to you about these verses?

Think about the biggest challenge you have ever overcome. How did you do it?

Think of a time when God called you to get of your comfort zone. What happened? What did you learn?

In the context of what is going on here at Red Rocks Church, what is God calling you to do?

Conclude with any last minute thoughts or questions.

PRAY

As a group, spend some time praying for each other and the struggles that we all face. If you are in a co-ed group, consider breaking up into men and women's groups to talk more freely.

TO GO

Isaiah 41:10-13

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.
Behold, all who are incensed against you shall be put to shame and confounded; those who strive against you shall be as nothing and shall perish.

You shall seek those who contend with you, but you shall not find them, those who war against you shall be as nothing at all.