



Make Way

Group Guide - Week 3 (for the week of June 27th)

Make Way Series Overview

Difficulty is a part of the Christian life. In fact, some would say it's essential. However, essential doesn't mean pleasant. No one likes the bad times. In order for us to connect with what God's up to in the hard times, we must fight passivity and pursue activity. God does not abandon us in difficulty, he asks us to join him there. And, Jesus encourages us, through his example, that when the deck is stacked against us healthy action is possible. In this series, we will discover together how to make a way.

Big Idea: Difficulty is an opportunity to meet God and as a result, grow.

Scripture: James 4:4, Hebrews 5:12-14, 1 Corinthians 14:20, Proverbs 14:29, Matthew 28:1-9, Matthew 19:26

Week Recap:

Life, without a doubt, will throw us dilemmas. If we aren't careful, those dilemmas can throw us into a tailspin. When we are making way, we will face difficulties. And, the decisions we make in critical times can determine our future. Rather than anger or anguish, we can choose maturity. No matter the impossible that is in front of us, we can know that God has gone before us, and with God all things are possible.

Key takeaways & action items:

- Those of us who have chosen this path can confirm, painkillers eventually become pain multipliers.
- Often, when we are facing our biggest dilemmas, **it doesn't mean something is wrong**, it means something is about to be **more right** than it has ever been before.
- We are a community achieving the impossible, together.
 - a. Together with God.
 - b. Together with each other.
- Life, whether we like it or not, will give us dilemmas. **This is especially true for those who are making a way.**
- Dilemma: a situation in which a difficult choice has to be made between two or more alternatives, especially equally undesirable ones.
- It's the Mature who Make a Way.

GROUP DISCUSSION:

1. Do you often question your ability to do difficult things?
2. Do you feel confident to make difficult decisions?
3. When it comes to difficulty, what do you normally do: avoid, attack, accept?
4. What difficult situations are you avoiding?
5. Our self doubt is often greater than our doubt of God, and two responses that develop from that are Anger & Anguish.
6. We read through Matthew 28 on Sunday. We see the disciples avoided going to see if Jesus was gone, while the women went to see themselves. They discovered Jesus was alive, and were charged with the challenge to Tell the World the good news. This, too, is our mission in life.
 - a. How can stepping into difficult situations help us share the Gospel?
 - b. What can we do to help each other in these difficult situations?
 - c. What does community mean to you during difficult times?

Weekly Resources

- For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. But **solid food is for the mature**, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil. Hebrews 5:12-14 (ESV)
- Brothers, do not be children in your thinking. Be infants in evil, but in your thinking be **mature**. 1 Corinthians 14:20 (ESV)
- Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. Matthew 28:1-4 (ESV)
- But the angel said to the women, "**Do not be afraid**, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." So they departed quickly from the tomb with **fear and great joy**, and ran to tell his disciples. Matthew 28:5-8 (ESV)
- And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "**Do not be afraid**; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me." Matthew 28:9 (ESV)
- But Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26 (ESV)