



DISCUSSION GUIDE

October 12/15, 2017

Underwhelmed by Jesus

BIG IDEA: If you are underwhelmed by Jesus you will be overwhelmed by life.

GROUPS VISION

We believe life transformation happens when we engage with other people, with Jesus as our focus, and take next steps together. A next step is where we Ask, Listen, and Respond to take any action that advances our journey with Jesus.

My Story. An encounter with Jesus leaves a story to tell. Share yours at valleycreek.org/MyStory.
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KEY VERSE

For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Colossians 1:16-17

POTENTIAL NEXT STEP

Set aside time this week to reflect on the awe and wonder of Jesus. Rest in knowing He holds all things together.

MAIN POINTS & SCRIPTURES

Jesus is the Creator, the Sustainer and the Redeemer. He is the exact representation of God. All things were created by Him and for Him. **(Colossians 1:15-20)** During our busy lives we develop an inaccurate view of Jesus and let the chaos of the world determine our view of life. Often, we are underwhelmed by Jesus and become overwhelmed with life. **(Mark 7:37, Mark 9:15)** Our perspective changes when we have a high view of Jesus and we learn to hear the Holy Spirit. Jesus will bring truth and clarity to our circumstances.

1. **Jesus is the Creator and Provider. (Col 1:15-16)** The Creator is always greater than His creation and the Creator always has authority over His creation. Sometimes we can become overwhelmed by the need in front of us and forget that we have the Creator, the Provider. **(Mark 6:35-37)** If He can create the world and everything in it, He can provide whatever it is we need. **(Philippians 4:19)**
2. **Jesus is the Sustainer. (Colossians 1:17)** Jesus holds all things together. Sometimes we can become overwhelmed by the chaos around us and forget that Jesus is the Sustainer. When life feels like it's falling apart, be still and know that He holds all things together. **(Psalm 46:10)** Jesus is also the Satisfier. Being discontent with Jesus can leave us discontent with our lives but Jesus wants us to live full of joy. **(Psalm 16:11)**
3. **Jesus is the Redeemer. (Colossians 1:18-20)** Jesus redeems the things we thought were damaged beyond repair. He makes them even better than they were to begin with. **(Colossians 1:19-20)** We are defined not by the one we love but by Jesus that loves us. Sometimes we can become overwhelmed by the brokenness and forget that we have the Redeemer. Jesus can restore, redeem, renew and reconcile anything in our lives.

Being overwhelmed by Jesus is a lifestyle. Here are three ways to tell God our feelings and then tell our feelings about God. **(Matthew 16:13-17)**

- a) Pray – Telling God about what we are overwhelmed with is giving up control to let Him take control. **(Philippians 4:6-7)** Once we start praying, we will be overwhelmed by the greatness of Jesus.
- b) Praise - **(Psalm 42:11)** When we start lifting God up and worshipping Him we see God for who He is, the Creator, the Sustainer, the Redeemer and we are no longer overwhelmed by our circumstances. The less we feel like worshipping, the more we need to worship.
- c) Proclaim - Sometimes we just have to proclaim the greatness of God over the brokenness of our lives. **(Proverbs 18:21, Deuteronomy 32:3)**

DISCUSSION

1. Have you ever been completely awed with the greatness and goodness of Jesus? Describe the circumstances surrounding that moment of wonder. (see points #1-3)
2. In what ways have you been overwhelmed this week? How has your view of Jesus impacted your ability to handle difficult situations?
3. How would speaking the simplicity of Jesus over the complexity of your life change the perspective of your current circumstance? (see point c)
4. **What is the Holy Spirit saying to you? What is your next step?**