



DISCUSSION GUIDE

March 15/18, 2018

Ripple Effect

BIG IDEA: What Jesus sets in motion in you, will ripple out from you.

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 the kingdom of God is not just a lot of talk; it is living by God's power.

1 Corinthians 4:20 NLT

POTENTIAL NEXT STEP

We encounter Jesus all around us. The stories made by His ripples are real and they matter. Spend some time this week thanking Him for the encounters in your life and ask Him how He wants you to share them.

MAIN POINTS & SCRIPTURES

The encounters we have with Jesus ripple out and become encounters with Jesus for others. We must not let fear, disbelief, and disappointments keep us from believing we have something to offer others by spreading the ripple effect of Jesus. Seeing situations through the grace and love of Jesus allows us to renew our mind – change our thinking – to release a ripple that impacts those around us. **(John 9:1-3)** An encounter with Jesus will force us to make a decision about who Jesus is. **(John 9:6-11; 13-16; 24-25; 35-38)**

Here are some ways we can build our faith about the ripple effects of Jesus in our own lives:

1. **You Are Encountering Jesus** (James 1:17) All good things in our lives are results of the ripple of Jesus. We encounter Jesus in every aspect of our lives: the good, the routine, the rough. Jesus is always leading our steps to Him. **(Proverbs 16:9)**
2. **Your Story Matters** Our story is about God's power in our lives through the ripples of Jesus. The ripples in our lives matter because they are a light to others that display Jesus. Our story is not something to hide or be ashamed of. **(John 9:3-5; John 20:21)** People aren't inspired by our perfect lives, they are inspired by our imperfect lives that show that God loves us perfectly. **(2 Corinthians 1:4)**
3. **You Don't Have to Have It All Figured Out** Whether or not we understand or can explain the details of an encounter with Jesus, we can talk about the impact. Lack of receptivity from those who hear our story has no impact on the reality of what Jesus has done. **(John 9:1-34)**
4. **Make Some Waves** We are wave makers modeled after the greatest wave maker of all – Jesus! The way we gently release ripples is by telling and showing others what Jesus has done in our lives. **(1 John 3:18)** We can show the ripples of Jesus by intentionally showing kindness, forgiveness, acceptance, love, and grace. **(1 Corinthians 4:20)** Even the smallest pebble makes a ripple in the biggest ocean.

DISCUSSION

1. What ripple from Jesus, in the area of relationships, abilities, provision, or freedom have you encountered? (See points #1)
2. Do you regularly, and eagerly, share the ripples Jesus has made in your life? If not, what is keeping you from sharing? (See Summary)
3. How will you become a wave maker? (See point #4)
4. What is the Holy Spirit saying to you? What is your next step?