

Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

Our Values / Part 3

Everyone Gets to Play – The mission of God in the hands of ordinary people

Introduction

When Jesus chose his twelve disciples, he did not seek out the scholarly or the 'wise' of his time. Jesus chose ordinary people – fishermen; a tax collector. Most were unschooled and uneducated, yet after spending time with Jesus, they were empowered to change the world. Jesus gave us all an example to imitate, demonstrating that ordinary people can create the greatest impact for His Kingdom. If we too spend time with Jesus and are willing to allow the Holy Spirit to guide us then we are qualified. He can and will use each one of us for his greater purpose.

Read

Acts 4:1-17

Discuss

1. Peter and John were unschooled men who God used for his greater purpose. What can you learn from this?
2. What was it about Peter and John that enabled them to speak boldly to the religious authorities?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-22. Why did Jesus chose to use the "foolishness of this world" to spread his message? Why was this effective?
4. In 1 Peter 2:9 the Bible says that we are all royal priests. What does this statement meant to you? How do you feel about being called a priest?
5. Why might it be helpful for someone to have a sense of belonging in a faith community before they are willing to accept Jesus and believe? How could we help to facilitate this?

(continued on next page)

Respond

We all have a part to play in the body of Christ. God initially placed the mission of God in the hands of an unschooled band of disciples and today he calls on us all to carry on the work that they begun. What is one step you can take this week to move the mission of God forward? Who can you invite with the lead line, "I'm looking for someone to read the Bible with, I don't know whether you're interested, it's okay if you're not."

Family Discussion Question

Sit down as a family and do a DBM. Read John 6:5-13 a few times. Talk about what God might be saying through these verses, then talk about what you are going to do about it.