

Greater
Part 4: The Hope of Greater



Sermon Small Group Questions
Speaker: Pastor Joseph Zwanziger

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

- This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. After considering the needs of your group, you may choose one of the following options:
 1. one section of questions
 2. one or two questions from each section
- Feel free to adapt the format to meet the needs of your group. If your group is mature and wants to dig deeper, add Scripture and ask suitable questions. Remember that this is only a guide.
- Personal application is key to everyone's growth and should be included in every discussion. When asked how he or she intends to apply a certain principle a group member may say, "I need to spend more time in the Bible and in prayer." It is important for you to help group members make applications that are more specific and commit to a specific plan of action by asking, for example, "How are you going to begin?" An example is to get up 30 minutes earlier each morning, spending 15 minutes reading the Bible and 10 minutes in prayer. Encourage each group member to be accountable to the group for personal progress at the next meeting.
- As the leader your goal is to help bring the group into a stimulating discussion that helps the members recognize their need for personal life change. Ultimately you want them to be willing to commit to change with accountability to the group. Accountability helps us to persevere in our commitments and achieve the blessings of success.

INTRODUCTION

If Christ words are true...

[John 14:12 NLT]

*"I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and **even greater works**, because I am going to be with the Father."*

And God was serious when he said...

[1 Peter 1:16]

It is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."

Then we have to ask ourselves a few questions;

1. Really... Can we really be holy as God is holy or do greater things than Christ?
2. If God said it, is it true?
3. Will the Bible, Gods Word, set us up for failure?

MESSAGE

The hope of greater is living in the revelation that "we" are not greater or more holy but as we surrender our lives to God who is greater and holy we will become like Him.

[Colossians 1:27 NKJV]

*To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: **which is Christ in you, the hope of glory (Greater)**.*

[Colossians 1:27 Message]

The mystery in a nutshell is just this: Christ is in you, so therefore you can look forward to sharing in God's glory (Greatness). It's that simple. That is the substance of our Message.

So the answer is; it is Christ **in you** that is the hope of greater. He will do greater things through you as you place your life in him.

Greater things will be accomplished through us as we submit to Him. The power of God will be displayed through us and in us as we surrender to Him.

The same power that raised Christ from the grave dwells within us.

So why don't we have stories where we have seen the power of God flow through us? Where are the miracles the healings the powerful works of God?

[John 3:30 NLT]

*"He must become **greater and greater**, and I must become **less and less***

So how can we become less so that God in us will become greater?

One way to become greater by becoming lesser is to fast.

Fasting is a spiritual tool God has given us to become lesser so that He will increase in us.

When we realize we are not living the lesser life we need to do something to shake off the "calcium" deposits of life. Fasting will break off the things of this world that will keep us away from the Hope of Greater

Just so we are clear, fasting is not eating food.

David said:

[Psalm 35:13]

I humbled my soul with fasting

To increase your Hope for Greater begin a lifestyle of Prayer and fasting

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What hopes have you had, and have you ever hoped for a "Greater" life? what your definition of a "Greater" life?**
- 2. What does it look like for God to work through us?**
- 3. What are some challenges we face when it comes to believing that the same power that raised Christ from the grave is alive and living in us ready to work through us?**
- 4. Since God is the Greater One, why do we not see more miracles?**
- 5. What are some things that can become "soul deposits" (hindrances that can hinder the move of God in our lives) along the way?**

- 6. How do we practically become "lesser," so that God can become greater? How is fasting an effective means of this? [Psalm 35.13]**
- 7. How can you begin living a lifestyle of fasting?**