

Message Study Guide

(Scriptures & quotes from this week's message are available on thorncreek.church/live)

Warming up

1. Have you ever wondered about "what if" scenarios? Share some "what if" stories that changed the trajectory of your life.

Digging Deeper & Application

Take your time reading the scripture given. If possible look up the verses in different versions and pause at each verse and discuss it.

2. Pastor Ruben shared there are two sides to the "what if" question. Faith or fear will fuel our decision making.
 - Share your thoughts.
 - Compare with this quote from Alan Redpath, "Fear is always the enemy of faith; this is the battleground of the Christian experience."
3. Can you think of any biblical examples of "what if?" Share three examples.
4. Read Exodus 3:10-14, and 4:1.
 - What was Moses' "what if" question?
 - What was his primary concern?
 - How did God handle Moses' "what if" question?
5. Read Exodus 4:1-17. Does Moses seem convinced that God is bigger than the "what if" scenarios?
6. Linda Dillow said, "When 'What Ifs' come into our lives, we must ask ourselves if we're going to judge God by the circumstances we don't understand or judge the circumstances in the light of the character of God."
 - Talk about this quote.
 - Compare with Psalm 119:105.
7. Pastor Ruben said, "You need to get to know the God behind the text."
 - What does this mean to you?
 - Do you know Jesus? Really?
 - Would the people around you be convinced that you know Jesus?

8. Read Genesis 24:1-8.
 - Where is the "what if" in this passage?
 - How does it compare with Abraham's faith?
 - Compare with the circumstances around Genesis 50:15. What happened?

9. Pastor Ruben said we need to change our thinking from "what if" to "even if".
 - Compare this thought with Daniel 3:16-18, Esther 4:15-16; and Habakkuk 3:17-18.

10. What kind of faith did Paul have in Acts 21:10-13?

11. What does Philippians 4:6-7 mean to you?

Application

Below are some of the points or quotes shared in the message. Discuss how they apply to your life.

- HERE'S HOW YOU KNOW YOU'RE GROWING IN CHRIST...
When the "What if" scenario dims compared to "what if" I didn't obey God.

- To walk with God means, your faith follows God's word.

- You need to get to know the God behind the text.

- The reason you're fearful of the worst is because you don't know Jesus.