

Message Study Guide

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

Warming up

1. What is your favorite ice cream flavor?

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. Have you ever been in a situation where you felt like God was giving you more than you could handle? What happened? How did you handle it?
3. Some say "God won't give you more than you can handle" but it is a myth. It most likely came from 1 Corinthians 10:13. What is the scripture talking about?
4. Can you think of any situations in the bible when someone was in a situation that was seemingly bigger than they could handle? Talk about it.
5. What do you know about the Book of Esther? Please read Esther chapter 4. As a recap...Esther is the Jewish maiden who became queen of Persia and rescued her people from a murderous plot to annihilate them. The story of Esther begins with a king's banquet. King Ahasuerus (also called Xerxes) was the son of the famed Persian king Darius I.
6. Pastor Ruben shared three reasons why God will give you more than you can handle. The first reason is "God wants you to look past the mirror." Compare this with Esther 4:13-14. Do you think Esther initially thought she was in danger?
 - a. Is it our human nature to be self-centered? Why or why not?
 - b. Do you believe you have a divine purpose? If so, do you know what it is?
7. Let's look at Moses. According to Exodus 14:1-4, where did God tell Moses to camp? What happened in this story? Pastor Ruben said, "God will put you between a rock and a hard place to display His glory." Can you see that to be true in this passage?
8. According to Esther 4:15-16, what did Esther do? Do you think she would have done this if she wasn't in this difficult situation?
9. According to Acts 9:13-16, how did God use difficult situations in the life of Paul?
10. Please read Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 12:9-10. What did Paul learn? What can we learn from tough situations?

**God Won't Give You More Than You Can Handle
God Never Said**

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11. According to Esther 4:16, what did Esther resolve to do?
 - a. What does this say about her view of her mission?
 - b. Compare with the words of Jesus in John 12:23-26; and Matthew 26:36-39.

12. How has this changed your understanding of God giving you more than you could handle?
Please share with your group.

Application

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

- God will put you in situations where you have to trust him or go it alone.
- God will put you between a rock and a hard place to display His glory
- You have a loving God who has a BIGGER PLAN than the person you see in the mirror.
- Sometimes God will give you more than you can handle because...God wants you to cry out to Him from the bottom of your heart.
- Sometimes God will give you more than you can handle because...The blessing is found in obedience.