

"COUCH SLEEPER CALLOUT"

Week 3: Equip

KEY PASSAGES:

Mt 28:19 "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..."

Acts 1:8: "you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

2 Timothy 3:16-17 "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

Ephesians 4:1 I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

Ephesians 4:11-12 Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.

2 Peter 3:9 He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance

Mark 10:44 "Even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Hebrews 13:20-21: "Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

Job 10:8 "Your hands shaped me and made me."

1 Corinthians 12:7 A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.

1 Peter 4:10 Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is some learned skill you are/were pretty good at...but feels more or less humorously useless?
2. Share a time where you experienced fulfillment by being a contributing part of something larger than yourself.
3. Three ways we are equipped to step out into God's mission were discussed--the first two are Scripture equips us, and the church equips us. Do you have a personal example of either of these?
4. We spent some time on the last one: God Himself equips us...using the "SHAPED" acrostic. Share one or more of any of the following ways God has, or is, equipping you to serve:

Spiritual Gifts (1 Corinthians, 1 Peter verses above)--some specific Christlike gifting to serve the church and for the common good of one another.

Heart--What's God passionate about that you're passionate about? What's a problem, platform, or a project that gets you going?

Abilities--What's something you're particularly and innately good at that could bless & serve others?

Personality--Have you ever taken a personality profile or inventory? How are you uniquely "wired"?

Experiences--Is there a specific experience that may have positioned you uniquely to understand or speak into certain situations?

Devoted--We aren't only to be involved in those things that "fit" us and leave other things up to someone else...the calling God has for all of us is not always to some specific task, but to benefit others in every and any way we can. Sometimes that fits our gifts, but sometimes you just have to do what you have to do. Share some way(s) you've stepped up to do something you weren't great or "into" but it just had to get done?

5. FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION: spend dedicated and repeated time in prayer this week asking God to shift your focus away from "being fed" and onto "being equipped"...and for Him to open your eyes and willingness to ways you can step out into his Mission.