



STUDY GUIDE

October 23, 2022

Message Series:

Beyond

Message Title:

Go Beyond

Teaching Pastor:

Brian Hughes

Warm-up/Icebreaker: (10 min)

Share your most memorable fishing experience or outdoor adventure.

Pray:

Lord, we praise You for who You are – all-knowing, all-powerful, loving, and good. We ask that You open our hearts to hear whatever it is that You want to teach us in our time together. Help us to put aside all distractions and worries and focus on You and the incredible message that You have for us. May the words that we speak be pleasing to You and may we be inspired by Your Word. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Get Started: (30 min.)

- How do you typically identify yourself when you are meeting someone new? Do you share what you do for a living, who you are related to, or something else about yourself?
- What are the three most important things in your life? Why are they important to you?

Read Matthew 4:18-20 and Luke 5:1-11.

- What additional information is included in Luke's account of the same story?
- What do you think Jesus means by "put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch"? What would the "deep water" be in your life?

Read Mark 10:17-22.

- How was the rich young rulers' response different from Peter and Andrews' response? Why do you think their reactions were so different?
- If you had been busy doing whatever it is you do for a living, and Jesus walked up to you and said, "come, follow me", what do you think your reaction would have been?

"The most common question in humanity, I believe, is some version of 'Why am I here?' Why do I exist? What is the overall core purpose of my life? Not everyone uses those words, but everyone asks the question. What's YOUR mission? Why are YOU here? What's YOUR reason for existing?" - Pastor Brian Hughes

- How would you answer the question of why you are here? What is your reason for existing?
- Do your actions (what you do with your time, money, and gifts/talents) line up with how you answered the previous question? If not, what are some things you could do so that your actions line up with your purpose in life?

“Your life mission is NOT about...YOU. It’s not about you. It’s about what God wants to do THROUGH you. It’s about the reality that God MADE you and gave you life and gave you skills and gave you health...and on and on and one we could go and none of what you have or who you are was given to you simply for you. It’s not about you. It’s about a mission that is bigger than you.... Beyond you.” - Pastor Brian Hughes

- Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Why or why not?

Read Ephesians 2:10, Proverbs 20:5, Philippians 2:1-4, 12-13.

- Based on these verses, how would you summarize what God says about your purpose and reason for existing?

Watch and Discuss Video: (running time 12 min.- 10 min. discussion)

Read Proverbs 29:18 in NIV, Amplified, and the Message.

- (From the video) In general terms, how does your mission relate to your vision?
- According to the scripture, what happens when we don’t have a vision for our lives? Conversely, what happens when we do have a vision for our lives? Have you experienced either of these (living with or without vision) in your own life? Share briefly.

Reflect and Commit: (10 min.)

*“They followed. Because they knew that something extraordinary was happening - something that would take them beyond themselves to a life that really mattered. Jesus’ invitation was clear: come follow me and I will make you fishers of men. And they did. Jesus looked at ordinary people who were doing ordinary things and called them to an extraordinary life. **But it would require them to make a choice.** This decision was about continuing to do what they’ve always done or following him and doing something beyond themselves.” - Pastor Brian Hughes*

- Based on everything that has been discussed, what choices do you think Jesus is asking you to make right now? What specific steps will you take as a result?

Gather prayer requests and pray. (5-10 min.)

Pray:

Dear Lord, thank You for calling us to follow You. How incredible that You are able to do extraordinary things through ordinary people who say “yes” to you. Please give us wisdom, insight, understanding and discernment. Help us to apply all that we learned to our lives and give us a heart that is willing to obey. We praise You that You are able to do exceedingly abundantly more than we can ask or imagine. It’s in the name of Jesus that we pray, Amen.