YOU ARE CALLED TO... GREATNESS! Genesis 12:1-4
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God has called you to greatness. God desires to make you great.

God called you to greatness because you were made in His image. God breathed His own life breath into Adam. It’s in us, and His Holy Spirit dwells inside us. Why is greatness in us? To be a light on a hill. Matthew 5:14-16

Greatness is not about shining the light on yourself. Greatness is about shining your light on the One who sent you with your assignment – the One who would rather partner with you than give you an assignment and stand on the side to judge you.

God has no problem with us being great because He knows we will make Him look great! Too often we are the ones who limit God, but the Holy Spirit dwells in us to exalt Jesus in all the earth!

John 10:10 NLV The robber comes only to steal and to kill and to destroy. I came so they might have life, a great full life. The devil can’t steal your salvation, but he will try to steal and destroy your dreams and potential for greatness and abundant life.

False fears of greatness, insecurities:

• Fear of failure or past experiences: Divorce/Remarried
• False Identity: I recently lost my job. I can’t provide.
• Insecurity: I’m not good enough. “How can God make something great out of me?”
• Small Thinking: “It will never happen for me.” God doesn’t care about me. I come from too bad a background.

GREATNESS COMES THROUGH TWO WAYS: Voluntary vs. Involuntary Positioning.

• Voluntary Positioning: Choices or decisions we make in following God. Principles we follow and walk in.
• Involuntary Positioning: Steps God provides for us to walk in.

The best example of involuntary positioning is Joseph. He did not go willingly into slavery or to prison, but once there, his wisdom, perseverance, excellence of character and service kept propelling him to higher positions: chief of household slaves, chief of prisoners, finally prime minister of Egypt. Genesis 45:6-8. It wasn’t always easy for Joseph. Some of it was painful and frustrating, but God used it to position him for true greatness and to save the lives of many thousands.

HOW DO WE GO ABOUT VOLUNTARIALLY POSITIONING OUR LIVES FOR GREATNESS?


Zaccheus was not just an example of humility, but also of true repentance. “Zakhaios” in Hebrew is from “זָכַי,” which means “pure and righteous one.” Zaccheus was neither, but Jesus saw the potential inside of him. Jesus told Zaccheus to come down! Enough climbing over people. Jesus wants us to climb down, to humble ourselves before Christ. As we humble ourselves, greatness will be released in our lives, just as it was in Zacchaeus. Jesus wants to come into the 'HOUSE' of your life – to restore greatness.

In what areas of your life is humility required?

• Pride: I can’t let it go!
• Insecurity: Failure, hurt from the past.
• Independence: You love God, but you are still lord of your life; you still live life your own way.
• Sin

Matthew 23:11 The path to greatness is through service. Sometimes God will allow us to go through a season of humility to prepare us for greatness.

2. Positioning Your Heart for Greatness Requires a Spirit of Submission: Centurion And Jesus, Matthew 8:5-10.

In the natural, the centurion had authority over Jesus, but he recognized Jesus’s authority and placed himself under it. Sometimes the key to your miracle or greatness is simply submitting to the authority God has placed in your life. Jesus called the centurion’s faith GREAT! v.10 “Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith.” He understood the power of submission to God and authority in the natural. Out of reverence for God comes a heart of submission. Ephesians 5:21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Our ability to submit to human authority reflects our submission to God’s authority.

In what areas of your life is submission required? Who is that leader? …boss? …spouse? …coach?
Noah is an excellent example of persistence. He labored 120 years to build the ark, the first 20 before any of his 3 sons were even born. He endured hard work, ridicule, and great financial expense to build the ark in a place where it never rained! People mocked him. He must have felt very alone. He stayed the course and the result was greatness! Just stay obedient.
In what areas of your life does God require obedience?
• Your calling/God dream: Stay faithful and obedient. Isaiah 55:11 Some of you don't have big thinking because you don’t have God's word inside of you.
• Singleness: Stay obedient in your purity, even if it's secondary virginity.
• Finances and tithing: It’s all about obedience, which opens up blessing.
• Gifts and talents: Stepping out to serve. We all need to serve. Commit and step out.

4. Positioning Your Heart for Greatness Requires a Spirit of Persistence: Woman with Chronic Bleeding Disorder, Mk. 5:25-34.
The Woman with the Chronic Bleeding Disorder: She had been hemorrhaging for 12 years and spent all her money on doctors, trying to be healed. When she heard about Jesus’s healing miracles, she dared to push through the crowd to get to Jesus. Mark 5:27
The woman was not willing to settle for being sick and unclean for the rest of her life, she pursued her healing with persistence!
Persistent faith releases power! So many people give up just before their breakthrough. Greatness is so close to you. Press in with persistence. Don’t let the enemy steal, kill and destroy your greatness and your blessing!
There will be obstacles, but you’ve got to press through them.
• John 16:33 “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”
• Rom. 8:28 We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.
Don't quit! Never give up!
• Galatians 6:9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.
• Phil. 1:6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.
• 1 John 4:4 You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

MiniChurch LifeTogether
SHARE
As you were growing up, who was your favorite super hero? Why? How did you identify with him/her?
What did you want to be when you grew up? Is that still your dream, your present reality, or has your dream changed?

DIG IN
Have you been able to realize your plans and dreams? What do you see for your future?
Which area do you feel you are doing best at: humility, submission, obedience, persistence? Why?
Which area are you struggling most with: humility, submission, obedience, persistence? Why?
Are you experiencing greatness in any area of your life right now? Explain.
What is standing between you and greatness right now?

COMM\IT
• I will choose Jesus to be my Lord – as I continue to seek Him with all my heart. I am created in His image. The more I know Him, the more I will discover who He made me to be.
• I will seek God with persistence and passion – knowing that I will find Him.
• I will love God. I will hear and obey Him.
• I will praise God and worship Him, and rejoice in God my Savior.
• I will submit to God, and serve Him and others with all my heart.
• I will partner with the Holy Spirit as He guides and provides in every way.
• I will enjoy God and His creation as I live my life each day with those He has given to me to love and nurture them in His ways.
• I will steward well my gifts and my talents in humility – recognizing that all I am and all I have is from God.
• I will support and encourage my family in Christ as I pray for them and with them each day.
• I will reach out to those who still need to know the Good News of Jesus and His love.
• I will grow greater as I honor and glorify God with all my heart.

PRAY Dear Lord, please help me to grow toward greatness in You. Please help me to acknowledge, receive and steward my blessings well so that I may be a blessing, and shine my light on You! Please teach and guide me by your Holy Spirit. In Jesus’ name.

MEMORIZE and MEDITATE on John 16:33 or 1 John 4:4 this week. Be prepared to share your insights with others during the week.