

DOING LIFE TOGETHER

11. How do you feel you are doing as you seek to live in a way that embraces God's purposes for your life? Is there anything you need to change immediately? How will you honor God with your choices this week or as you go into your summer?

12. How do we help and encourage one another as a Growth Group to continually keep our hearts aligned with God's purpose for our lives? What can we do to continue this even after our groups wrap up next week?

Prayer Requests

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May 22, 2016

Sermon Notes When

Does God Play Favorites? God Creates for His Purposes

Romans 9:19-21

Why did God have to M_____ M__ T_____ W_____?

1. God W_____ the plan (v. 19)

2. We believe our E_____ (v. 20)

Acts 17:26

3. God gives our R_____ (v. 21)

1 Timothy 2:20-21

A_____ makes S_____ easier

What do I need to do with what I have heard today?

GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK

May 22, 2016

THINKING THINGS THROUGH

1. Have you ever worked with clay, either with your children or in an art class? How good were you at working with this material?
2. What is a skilled artisan able to do with clay that most of us will never be able to do? What effect does the ability of the artisan have on the end product?

DIGGING DEEPER

READ JEREMIAH 18:1-4.

3. Before Jeremiah spoke, he watched the potter work. How do you stop and observe what God is doing around you? What do we miss about God when we don't pause to observe Him at work?
4. Verse 4 provides the most important point of this illustration. What was the potter able to see about the clay? What was he able to do about it?
5. Can you share an example of a time when God corrected something in your life that you didn't see as a problem?

READ JEREMIAH 18:5-6.

6. In this illustration, the potter represents God and the clay represents God's people, specifically Israel and then more broadly us today. What is the potter able to do with the clay? What truth did Jeremiah learn about God's purposes from this illustration?

7. It is important for us to understand that God's sovereign control does not eliminate our responsibility to live according to His purposes. What does God do when we live outside His purpose?

READ JEREMIAH 18:7-10.

8. When you observe the world around you, are you tempted to lose hope?

9. How does God's control of the nations bother you and how does it comfort you?

10. In God's use of Israel, God used people and a nation to bring a Savior for all people (a purpose Paul made clear in Romans 9). What part do we (as individuals and as the church) continue to play in that plan? How are you responding to that responsibility?